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Early Dyn.
Cemeteries
of
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II

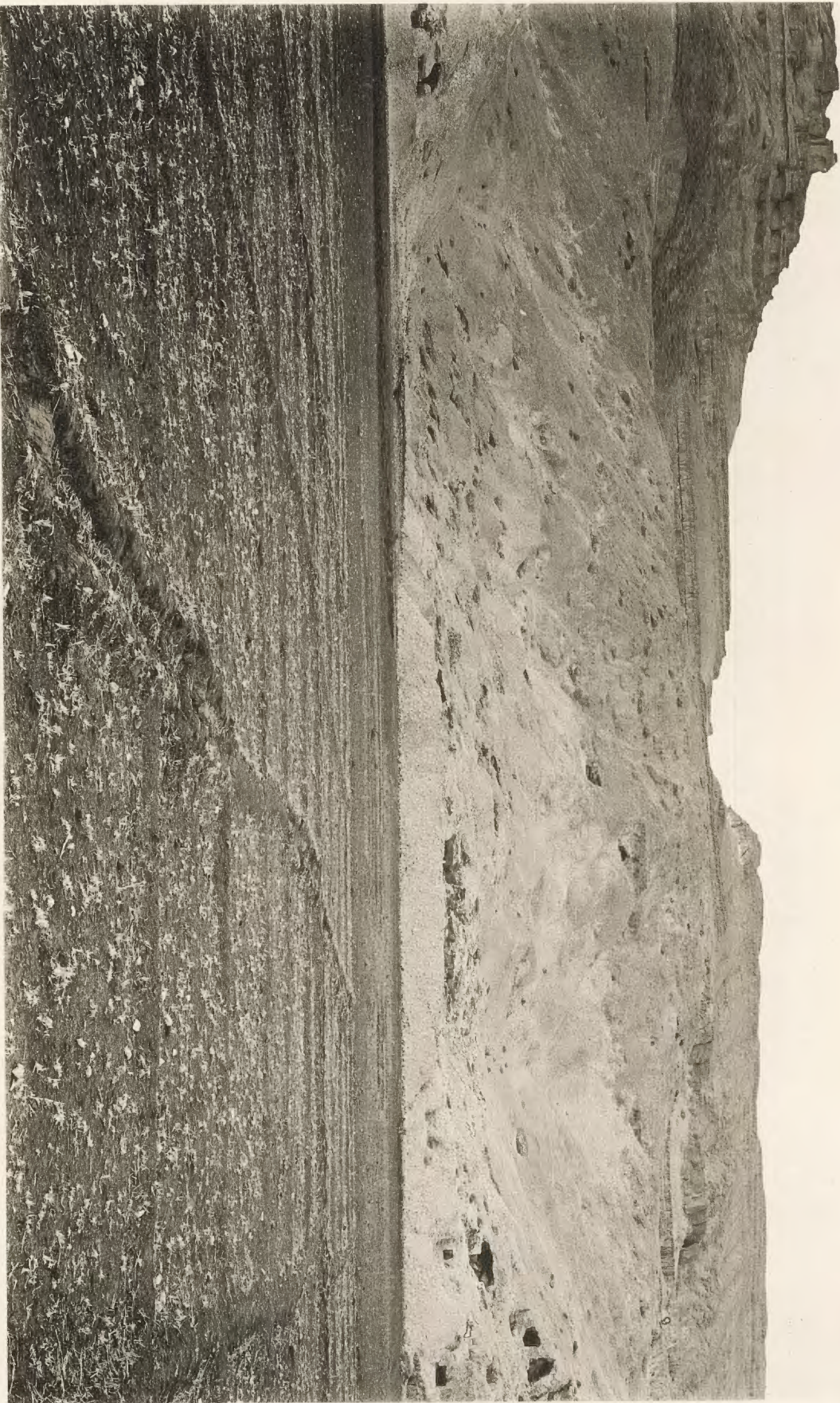
A. C. Mace

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HEARST
EGYPTIAN
EXPEDITION

VOL. III
EARLY DYNASTIC
CEMETERIES
PART II

J. C. Hinrichs, Leipzig



Distant view of cemetery from cultivation.

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA PUBLICATIONS

EGYPTIAN ARCHAEOLOGY, VOLUME III

C

11668

THE
EARLY DYNASTIC CEMETERIES
OF
NAGA-ED-DÊR

PART II
BY
ARTHUR C. MACE

J. C. HINRICHS, LEIPZIG

1909

Gxi



TO
MRS. PHOEBE APPERSON HEARST

WHO, IN THE INTEREST OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, HAS BORNE FOR FIVE YEARS
THE ENTIRE FINANCIAL BURDEN OF SCIENTIFIC EXPEDITIONS IN PERU, NORTH AMERICA
AND EGYPT, THE SERIES OF PUBLICATIONS ON EGYPTIAN ARCHAEOLOGY OF WHICH THIS
IS THE THIRD VOLUME, IS HEREBY GRATEFULLY DEDICATED.

PREFACE.

The second volume of the publication of the excavations of Mrs. Hearst's Egyptian Expedition is contained in these pages, and represents the continuation of the work given in the first volume,—“The Early Dynastic Cemeteries of Naga-ed-Dêr, Part I”. The cemeteries Nos. 1500 (I.—II. Dynasty), 3000 (II. Dynasty), and 500 (III. to VI. Dynasties) had been excavated when Mr. Mace joined the expedition, and the work of his first year was the clearing of Cemetery 2500. The general character of the site, that it contained graves of an early and a late period, had been seen from the preliminary excavation made by Mr. F. W. Green in the spring of 1901. But the necessities of the other work of the expedition prevented the complete excavation of the cemetery until 1902—3.

In 1899, Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst entrusted to me the organization and direction of an Egyptian Expedition. She bound herself by contract to provide all the funds for the Expedition for five years. The object of the Expedition was to make historical and archaeological researches for the University of California, and to provide material for an Egyptian Museum at that University. Later, with Mrs. Hearst's support, a great scheme of anthropological research was organized under the general direction of Professor Putnam of the University of California, and of the Peabody Museum of American Archaeology at Harvard University; and the Egyptian Expedition became part of that general scheme. I was made responsible for the Egyptian work, and was given perfect freedom in the appointment of my assistants and in the methods of work. Supported by Mrs. Hearst alone, the expedition continued its active field work for six years. After that date, working on ample funds provided by Mrs. Hearst, the expedition has continued the work of publication.

In the spring of 1899, I engaged Mr. F. W. Green of Cambridge University to help me. He had been with Mr. J. E. Quibell at Hierakonpolis in 1897—8, and alone at the same site in 1898—9¹ working for Prof. Petrie's Research Account. And somewhat later, I engaged Mr. A. M. Lythgoe who had been a student with me while I was an instructor at Harvard University in 1896—7. He had just been appointed instructor at the University, and gave up that place

¹ See Egyptian Research Account, Hierakonpolis I and II, (Quaritch, London).

to come to the Hearst Expedition. With the help and advice of Dr. Ludwig Borchardt and especially of Mr. J. E. Quibell, the plan of work for the first year was formed; and I determined to look for the cemetery of Coptos (Keft) in the desert east of that place. Mr. J. E. Quibell went on a trip of inspection with me to Keft, Der-el-Ballas, Ballas, El-Kab, Kom-el-Ahmar, Matana, Esneh, Edfu and other sites in September 1899. Absolutely inexperienced as I was in camp life, Mr. Quibell and his sister, Miss Kate Quibell, were of the greatest assistance to us in the organization of a rational camp life at the start.

Mr. Green brought with him a certain number of men, trained, some of them by him, and some by Mr. Quibell. We also got ten or twelve men who had worked with Prof. Petrie at one time or other.¹ The rest were green hands. On this basis, by a process of selection and training, our organized gang of workmen was built up, which is at present, I believe, the best trained and most effective gang in Egypt. This includes a photographic staff, headed by Said Ahmed Said, which has this year (1906—7) done practically all the photographic work for the Harvard-Boston Museum Expedition, including the taking of photographs, the developing of the negatives, and the making of the prints.

In December 1899 and January 1900, we searched the desert at Keft and finally found the cemetery inaccessible in the cultivation between the village of Kellahin and the village of 'Awedat.² In the meantime a predynastic flint camp was found and excavated; and a plundered predynastic cemetery at Shurafa was examined. In February, the whole expedition moved to Dêr-el-Ballâs, where in the spring, February—July, 1900, and November—December, 1900, two 18th dynasty cemeteries, a number of houses, and two mud-brick palaces were excavated.

In May 1900, having been informed by Sobhi Effendi, Inspector of the Department of Antiquities, that plundering was going on in a predynastic cemetery at El-Ahaiwah, opposite Menshiah, I obtained permission from the Department of Antiquities to excavate that site. During May—August, I worked at El-Ahaiwah on a predynastic cemetery, a cemetery and a town of the late New Empire, and a fort which showed signs of occupation from the Middle Empire to the late New Empire.

In November—December, 1900, work was resumed on the palaces at Dêr-el-Ballâs. In December, Mr. Lythgoe was sent with a gang of men to search the desert to the south as far as a predynastic cemetery which Quibell and I had seen in 1899, which I now wished to excavate. In the meantime Mr. Quibell had informed us that the site of Naga-ed-Dêr opposite Girga and about five miles south of El-Ahaiwah, was being plundered. Having obtained permission from the Department of Antiquities, I went to Naga-ed-Dêr on February 1st, 1901, leaving Mr. Lythgoe to finish up at Ballâs and at Dêr-el-Ballâs.

¹ Prof. Petrie had begun work some weeks before our work began, and had already taken all the men he wanted from Keft.

² Since then reports of plundering have confirmed this conclusion.

It soon became clear that we had at Naga-ed-Dêr a series of cemeteries from one community covering a long period of time, and that important archaeological results might be obtained from the systematic excavation of these cemeteries. From February 1st, 1901, to March 1903, active field work was carried on at the site; and the series of cemeteries was found to be nearly complete from the earliest predynastic period down to the present day.

Mr. Green left the expedition in May 1901; and Mr. A. C. Mace, who had been with Prof. Petrie for four years, was engaged in his place, and joined the expedition in November 1901. Mr. Lythgoe was sent to Keft and Dêr-el-Ballâs in November—December 1901, to take a fresh series of photographs at these places and to close the camp at Dêr-el-Ballâs. In December 1901—March 1903, Mace worked on Cemetery 3500, I worked Cemetery 100, and Lythgoe worked on the predynastic cemetery 7000.

In the spring of 1902, Mr. Quibell informed me that Dr. G. Elliot Smith, professor of Comparative Anatomy at the Khedivial School of Medicine, wished to obtain somatological and other material for researches on the racial characteristics, the diseases, and the treatment of bodies for burial of the ancient Egyptians. I immediately offered him all our material, which at that time, owing to the condition of the bodies in Cemetery 7000, was particularly interesting. Thanks to the courtesy of the Ministry of Education and of the head of the Khedivial School of Medicine and to their interest in scientific research, Prof. Elliot Smith was permitted to spend a number of weeks examining the skeletons in the graves; and he has continued to do the anatomical work of the expedition down to the present day.

In March, 1903, Mr. Mace was sent with a gang of men to begin work at the Pyramids of Gizeh. In 1903—4, I took charge of the Gizeh work, while Lythgoe and Mace finished up the work of mapping, planning, photography etc. at Naga-ed-Dêr. The excavations at the Pyramids led to the clearing and the identification of the separate royal cemeteries of Cheops, Chephren and Mykerinos, the later cemeteries of the priests of these kings, and the accumulation of a mass of material on the development of the mastaba, the masonry, the art and the burial customs of this period. This material, moreover, confirms and completes the material at Naga-ed-Dêr and finds its proper place in the chronological series of that site.

Mr. Lythgoe had, in 1902, been appointed curator of the Egyptian Department of the Boston Museum; and in 1904, he returned to Boston to take up his duties there. In the meantime, in 1903, Mr. N. de G. Davies, who had been working for the Egypt Exploration Fund, was engaged to do the copying work of the expedition; and worked partly for the Fund, partly for the Hearst Expedition, and later for the Harvard-Boston Museum Expedition, during 1903—5.

Since 1905, the field work of the expedition has been continued in the interest of Harvard University and the Boston Museum of Fine Arts, supported by a subscription fund which has

been in charge of a committee consisting of Mr. Gardner M. Lane, Mr. Francis Bartlett, and Prof. George F. Moore.

It is not possible here to give a detailed account of the methods of work of the Expedition; but I wish to indicate the general principles which have been followed by the Expedition, especially in its later work.

1. It is necessary to have an organized staff of Europeans and of workmen trained in all branches of the work, and following careful methods of excavation and recording *as a habit*.
2. It is necessary to excavate whole sites and whole cemeteries. The excavation of individual tombs, while interesting and at times valuable, does not provide that sufficiency of continuous material which is necessary to justify conclusions on the development of a civilization such as we have in Egypt. The discovery of beautiful objects is, of course, greatly to be desired; but the search for Museum specimens is an offence against historical and archaeological research which is utterly unworthy of any institution which pretends to be devoted to the advancement of knowledge.
3. Every cemetery and every building represents a series of deposits which ought, so far as practicable, to be taken off layer by layer in the inverse chronological order and recorded layer by layer.
4. It is necessary to make a complete record by drawings, notes and *photographs*, of every stage of the work. We have found it possible to record every tomb in a cemetery, plundered and unplundered, by photography, and, moreover, every important stage in the excavation of each tomb.
5. It is necessary to publish these records so far as practicable, *tomb by tomb*, and at the same time to give a careful systematized consideration of the material they contain. The hasty and incomplete publication, year by year, of the season's work, with the temporary working hypothesis of the hour, satisfies the curiosity of those who have a less direct interest in the work, but tends to deprive the systematic archaeologist of a large mass of useful material.

I wish gratefully to acknowledge the obligations of the Expedition to the Service des Antiquités of the Egyptian Government, and especially to Prof. Maspero for the granting of concessions to the expedition, and for the justice and generosity which has been manifested in dividing the proceeds of our excavations.

I wish also to thank Mr. Quibell and Prof. Borchardt for their assistance in the first year of the expedition, and subsequently for their continual advice and sympathy.

GEORGE A. REISNER.

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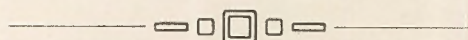
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INTRODUCTION.

The proto-dynastic graves of the great Thinite necropolis occupy four distinct cemeteries, each constructed on a low bluff at the extreme edge of the desert. Unfortunately there is a slight gap between the earliest of the four and the predynastic cemetery N. 7000; a gap which would probably be filled up by a later predynastic cemetery further south, which still remains to be excavated. The cemeteries were not all in use at the same time, but were taken over one after the other, each marking a definite stage in the development of the tomb. The first (N. 1500) is mainly I dyn., but contains a few early II dyn. graves. The second (N. 3000) follows close on the first, and contains graves of the II dyn. The third (N. 3500) slightly overlaps the second, its tombs ranging over the latter part of the II dyn. and the whole of the III dyn. The fourth (N. 500) came into use soon after the third, and contains a long series of graves of the III—V dyn. period.

The first and second of these cemeteries have been already described in volume II of this series, and it is the third with which we have now to deal.

1. General description of cemetery 3500.

Situated at the mouth of a large irregularly shaped ravine¹ (see frontispiece), cemetery 3500² occupies the point of a long slope, the upper part of which is filled with rock-cut tombs of the VI—IX dyn. period. On the north it is bounded by the main watercourse, which bends away sharply in a north-easterly direction, and runs back for a considerable distance into the high desert. On the other side of the cemetery there had been a second much smaller watercourse, which received the drainage from the high slopes to the south and east; but this had gradually silted up at some time previous to the beginning of the cemetery, and it was in the gravel deposit thus formed that the graves on the south side were constructed. The lower end of the slope reached to the road at the edge of the cultivation, and on this part of the cemetery the graves had suffered considerably from denudation, superstructures having in most cases entirely disappeared. Further damage had been done by infiltration of water from the Nile, which in a good inundation year washes the edge of the cemetery. All the skeletons in this lower part of the cemetery were completely rotted by the damp, and further damaged by the growth of weeds.

*Position
of
cemetery*

¹ Called 'first ravine' in Vol. II, page 1.

² 3500, the distinguishing number originally given to this piece of the cemetery has for convenience sake been kept, though most of the 3500 numbers were used for the rock-cut tombs higher up the slope, which were excavated first.

Plundering This cemetery, like most of the others in the district, had suffered at the hands of modern native plunderers, but the earlier graves were too poor, from their point of view, to be worth digging, and they had contented themselves with turning out some half-dozen pits. A much larger proportion of the graves had been disturbed in ancient times, though the disturbance was in many cases only superficial, as the contemporary plunderer had gold as his object, and as a rule left the stone vases and other objects alone.

Excavation of cemetery In the season of 1900-1 some preliminary work was done on this cemetery by Mr. GREEN, who cleared among others the large II dyn. stairway tomb (3551); but, owing to the greater importance of work on other parts of the site, the cemetery was not systematically cleared till the winter of 1902-3. The photograph on plate 2 shews the condition of the ground at the beginning of the 1902-3 season, while 3, taken from the same point, gives us a view of the cemetery after the final clearing.

Date of cemetery The cemetery first came into regular use towards the end of the second dynasty. With one exception—a sporadic burial of the late-middle predynastic period—the earliest graves were of the corbel-vaulted stairway type which was common on another part of the site, and it is clear that this cemetery immediately succeeded cemetery 3000. Following on the corbel-vaulted tombs there was a large closely-connected series of small graves, which covered the whole of the third dynasty. At about the end of the third dynasty the cemetery was abandoned in favour of cemetery 500, and apparently fell into complete decay. In the sixth dynasty this part of the site again came into use. Rock-cut¹ tombs were constructed in the upper parts of the slope, and in the gravel banks on the side of the large water-course, while graves of the 'shaft and chamber' type were sunk in vacant spaces all over the cemetery. Here, as in most Egyptian cemeteries, the newcomers had had but little respect for the tombs of their ancestors: walls were cut away to make room for a new pit, or were made use of in the construction of the later tombs, while in some cases two or more early graves were completely covered up and hidden away by the larger sixth dynasty super structures. It was only by clearing away the whole of these later superstructures that we could get at many of the earlier ones underneath (see plate 39). Plate 5 gives us a view of the cemetery cleared down to sixth dynasty level, while in 6 we have the same view after the later superstructures had been removed. The difference in the level of the surface at these two periods was 40-50 cm. This was due partly to the decomposition and collapse of the third dynasty walls, which, it must be remembered, were constructed of mere crude brick, and partly to natural accumulation. In the ninth dynasty or thereabouts the cemetery was once more abandoned, and, with the exception of two or three eighteenth dyn. intrusive burials in the rock-cut tombs of the upper part of the slope, never again came into use.

We have, therefore, two distinct groups of tombs in this cemetery—those of the II to III dynasties, and those of the VI—IX, marked respectively black and red in the general plan (Pl. 58). In this volume we are primarily concerned with the early group, as the latter type of grave recurs frequently in various parts of the site, and will be discussed in detail in a

¹ We have applied the term 'rock-cut' to the whole of this class of tombs, as those constructed in the gravel were of exactly the same type as the real rock-cut tombs.

later volume. We have, however, for convenience sake, devoted one chapter to a short description of these later graves.

The direction of the earlier graves followed the course of the river, and was probably *Orientation* intended for N—S, though in reality it was a good deal west of north: the later graves were usually, though by no means universally, E—W.

At first sight this cemetery hardly seems to merit the distinction of a separate volume. The graves were small and poor. Few contained more than a few rough pots and a stone vase or two; and of these the latter, as we shall show later, had usually been intentionally broken at the time of the burial. Yet it has both interest and importance; for it forms one of a series of cemeteries at Naga-el-Dêr, which, taken together, give us the archæology of the first three dynasties in unbroken sequence.

2. *Relation of tomb-types in cemetery 3500 to those in cemeteries 1500, 3000 and 500.*

In volume II (pages 11-14) the development of the types of proto-dynastic graves has *Development of tomb types* been logically worked out from the evidence supplied by cemeteries 1500 and 3000. It remains for us to examine our cemetery in the light of this evidence, and to see how far our new evidence conflicts with, or supplements, the conclusions there set forth.

In the first place it must be remembered that the *latest* tombs described in the former volume, and, as we shall show later, the *earliest* tombs of this volume, belong to about the same period—that of the latter half of the second dynasty. Cemetery 3500 then is in immediate chronological succession to cemetery 3000, and its tomb types should show the same relative typological succession. At first sight it seems as if they certainly did not. The chronological order of tomb types set forth in volume II is as follows:—

- A. Wood-roofed tombs without entrance. Early I dyn.
- B. Wood-roofed tombs with stairway or incline. Late I dyn. (Den).
- C. Corbel-vaulted tombs with stairway or incline. II dyn. (Khasekhemui).
- D. Underground chambers with stairway or incline. III dyn. (Zeser).

Summary of development as shown by cemeteries 1500 and 3000

The development of these types one from another is perfectly natural and logical. The earliest proto-dynastic grave consisted of a plain rectangular hole in the ground, with a roof of wooden logs or beams. In small shallow graves there was no need of an entrance other than from above, but as the tomb got larger and deeper, and the difficulties of construction increased, the introduction of the stairway became, not merely natural, but inevitable. Meanwhile the roof had been giving cause for thought. Plain wooden beams were obviously in themselves not sufficient to shelter and protect the burial, and we find the wooden roof covered, first probably with mud, next with a thick layer of brickwork, and lastly with a double layer of brick, the upper courses of which were supported by a second covering of wooden beams. Yet even this was insufficient. Brickwork, which owes its support entirely to wood is not, at the best of times, a very stable form of construction, and in a country overrun by white ants a worse could not well be imagined. The thickness of the roof added to the weight without increasing the solidity, and made catastrophe doubly certain. It is not surprising then that the corbel vault, discovered possibly by accident, as Dr REISNER suggests,

should have been substituted for the clumsy roof of mixed wood and brick. Thus, at the end of the second dynasty, our tomb consisted of a large rectangular hole, constructed in the bed-rock, roofed with a corbel-vault, and entered by a sloping incline with or without steps. It is at this point that the really radical change in tomb construction came in. Hitherto the graves had all been open holes with artificial roofs. From now on the burial-chambers of the larger tombs were excavated underneath the bed-rock, the rock itself forming the roof. The transition is quite natural. Why—one may imagine the process of reasoning to have been—why make an open grave, the roofing of which involves considerable labour and ingenuity, when by digging a little deeper a natural roof is provided by the excavation of the chamber itself? The change was effected, and we get in consequence the third dynasty type of large tomb, a type familiar to us at El Kab, Reqaqnah, and in cemetery 500 at Naga-el-Dêr, consisting of an underground chamber, communicated with by a long stairway or incline.

Cemetery 3500 outside main line of development. Now cemetery 3000 belongs almost entirely to the C class, and we should expect cemetery 3500, which follows directly after it, to contain the earliest graves of the D class. As a matter of fact we find nothing of the sort. The cemetery contains one large tomb and two small ones of class C, and a long series of stone-roofed graves—a form of roofing which has no connection at all with corbel vaults, but is derived from the older wooden-roofed tomb. Tombs of the D class do not appear at all. In other words cemetery 3500 seems to be outside of the main line of development. The explanation of this phenomenon is to be found in a fact which has been already stated in Volume II, but which cannot be too strongly emphasized; namely, that *the main line of development is in all cases to be sought for in the large tombs.* The short account of the development of tomb construction given above was taken entirely from the larger tombs. If we examine the small tombs we find anomalies creeping in, even as far back as cemetery 1500. Side by side with the stairway and corbel-vault tombs we find type A—wood-roofed tombs without entrance—holding its own in *small graves* right down to the end of cemetery 3000. The poorer class in the second dynasty in same cases either could not afford to pay for the skilled labour necessary for the construction of corbels, or preferred for some other reason to keep to the old style of roofing. Whatever the reason, at the time cemetery 3000 was abandoned there were two distinct types of construction, one used in the larger graves and the other in the smaller. At this point in the history of the site—that is to say at the end of the second dynasty—there was for some reason a striking increase in the proportionate number of burials. The third dynasty graves occupy two large cemeteries (500 and 3500), either of which contains a greater number of burials than cemeteries 1500 and 3000 put together. Now the rich graves of the period were all constructed in cemetery 500, and it is in this cemetery that we find the main line of development carried on. The graves of 3500 are small and poor, and the type of tomb construction is derived, not from the corbel-vault of the large grave, but from the wooden roof of the small grave. Our earliest graves in cemetery 3500, excepting only the three corbel-vaulted tombs referred to above, are roofed with slabs of stone—i. e. stone beams instead of wooden beams. As we shall show later, in our description of the tombs, the slabs gradually decreased in size, lost their primary object as roofing stones, and deteriorated into aimless

Main line of development to be looked for in large graves.

Large III dynasty graves in cem. 500.

Small ones in cem. 3500.

Independent development of the small grave.

rough blocks, placed on a rubbish filling as a kind of additional protection. In our latest graves the stones tend to disappear altogether, and the grave is covered with a flat roofing of brick, or mixed brick and stone, resting on and supported by the coffin. It is probably from this type of grave that the later *closed* corbel developed.

Cemetery 3500 is then a kind of backwater of the stream of development. It teaches us two important lessons. It shows us, and the fact should act as a warning to us in dealing with other periods, that in protodynastic times at any rate:

- (a) The *small* tomb of a certain type is as a rule later in date than the large tomb-type which it imitates.
- (b) It is possible for the small grave to remain unaffected by the development of the large grave, or even to have an independent development of its own.

The diagram below shows the double line of development.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Large tomb</i>	<i>Small tomb</i>	<i>Table of double line of development.</i>
Early I	Wood-roofed, without entrance	Wood-roofed, without entrance	
Late I	Wood-roofed, with entrance	" " " "	
Early II	Corbel-vaulted, with entrance	" " " "	
Late II	" " " "	Wood-roofed, without entrance } Corbel-vaulted, with entrance } cem. 3000	
Early III	Chamber cut under bed-rock, with stairway	Stone slab-roofed, without entrance, cem. 500 Chamber filled, and covered with rough stones	
Late III	" " " with shoft	Flat or arched covering of brick or stone	
Early IV	" " " "	Closed corbel-vaults	



I.

DETAILS OF TOMB CONSTRUCTION.

WE have in this cemetery to deal with two distinct groups of tombs, which for convenience sake we will term 'early' and 'late'. The late group consists of a number of graves—mostly of the 'shaft and chamber' type—of the VI-IX dynasty period, and for the present may be put entirely on one side¹. The present and following four chapters are concerned solely with the early group, which comprises a series of some hundred and fifty small mastabas, ranging in date over the latter part of the II and probably the whole of the III dynasties².

The tombs are approximately all of the same type, and group themselves naturally into one series. There are many differences, however, in minor points of construction, and the series can be subdivided into several distinct groups. It is in the resolution of the graves into these groups, and the discussion of their co-relationship and development one from another, that the most important part of our task lies. As a preliminary to this discussion we propose in this chapter to describe in detail the various points of tomb-construction found in this cemetery, taking each by itself and ignoring for the present its connection with the other points.

1. Substructure.

Burial pit. The actual pit in which the body was laid was the first part of the grave to be constructed, and, in this cemetery at any rate, the only part constructed prior to the burial.

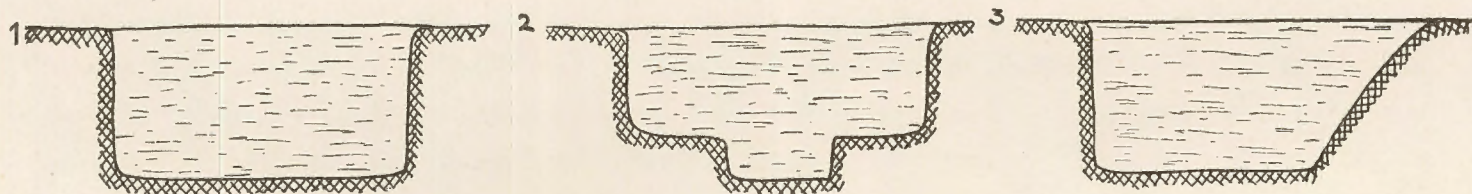


Figure 1.

It consisted of a more or less roughly cut oblong hole, varying in depth from about half a metre to two metres. Usually it was a plain hole in the bed-rock or gravel deposit (Fig. 1, 1), but in six examples (N. 4793, 4797, 5302, 4519, 4532, 5399) there was an extra hole cut in the middle of the floor, just deep enough to contain the burial (Fig. 1, 2). The sides of the pit were in some cases straight; in others they were constructed with a slight batter,

¹ They are discussed in chapter VI.

² There are four still earlier graves, which are described separately in the next chapter.

while in one or two cases the pit was straight at one end, and cut away on a rough slant at the other (Fig. 1, 3).

Unlined pits were rare, and only occurred in the latest type of grave. The remainder of the pits were lined with brick (Fig. 2, 1); with stone (Fig. 2, 2), or in a few examples even with plain mud.

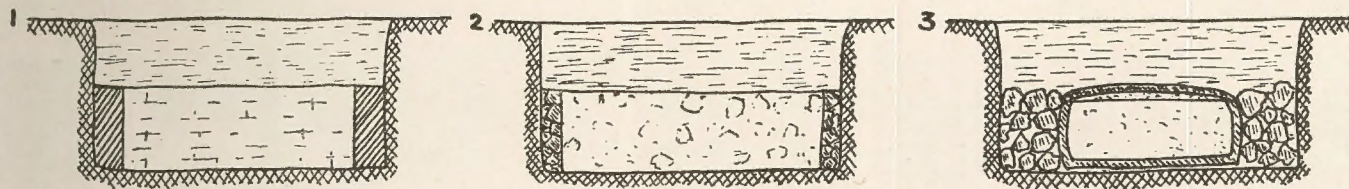


Figure 2.

The inside, that is to say the exposed, faces of these linings, in brick and stone alike, were smooth and plastered: the outer faces were left rough. Where the pit side had a batter, the space between wall and bed-rock was filled in with fragments of bricks and stone chips.

The lining walls were not built until after the burial had been put in position. This is proved positively by the fact that the stone vases and other objects were frequently found underneath the walls. So securely were they hidden in some cases, that they were not brought to light until the entire wall had been demolished¹. In graves where pottery coffins were used, the space between the coffin and the side of the pit was usually entirely filled with rough stones (Fig. 2, 3), in such fashion that the coffin was completely jammed, and could not be moved without first removing the stones.

The brick linings were of varying thicknesses. Walls of half brick were the commonest, but in the larger graves full brick was sometimes used. When a thickness of less than half brick was desired, it was secured by laying the bricks on their sides. Occasionally the walls were built slightly away from the sides of the pit, a space of some ten or twenty centimetres being left between brick and rock. One grave, no. 4370, in addition to a brick lining, had the remains of a partition wall, a reminiscence possibly of the subsidiary chambers of the earlier tombs².

The stone linings likewise varied, some being composed of thin slabs placed on edge, while others were regularly built walls³.

The original purpose of lining walls such as these was doubtless to support the roofing of the pit, whatever that roofing might be—wooden beams, corbel vaults, or stone slabs. In this cemetery, however, only the earliest graves of the series were roofed. The pits of the rest were filled with sand and rough stones, and the lining, having thus lost its main object, appears in a considerably reduced form.

As a general rule the early dynastic grave had some definite form of roofing, and under this roofing the burial pit was left empty. In this series of graves, however, the roofed pit was the exception, the majority of the chambers being completely filled with sand and rough

¹ Similar cases occurred in cem. 500.

² See Vol. II p. 11, *additional chambers*.

³ In this latter case pottery jars were sometimes built into the lining wall. See plate 18c.

stones. With most of the burials there was no trace of a coffin or other protection to the body, but it would be quite contrary to the Egyptian custom to bury loose in a rough filling of this sort. In all probability wooden coffins were used: indeed some of the graves in the higher and drier part of the cemetery shewed distinct traces of such coffins¹. Granting the coffins, the method of burial was probably something as follows. Prior to the funeral a plain oblong pit had been prepared. In this the coffin was laid and the grave deposits, of whatever kind, were placed in position. Then, and not till then, the stone or brick lining was built, and the space around and immediately above the coffin was filled with sand. Above this small stones were filled in, and the whole was covered with large irregular limestone blocks, reaching to about II dyn. level, and plastered on the top with a coat of mud (Fig. 3). When the wood of the coffin rotted away, and the coffin collapsed, the whole filling of the pit sank, and to this is probably due the fact that the mud plastering is as a rule so irregular and broken (Fig. 4). Where pottery coffins were used, it was not infrequent to find these rough stones resting immediately upon them (see Fig. 5).

There was usually only one layer of the large covering stones, but occasionally two were found. In two cases there was a large slab of stone underneath the main covering, running north and south: this had probably rested on the coffin, and was placed there to support the upper stones, which ran east and west (Fig. 6).

Roofing or covering of pit.

As we stated above, real roofed pits, with empty chambers beneath them, were extremely rare in this cemetery, only occurring in the earliest graves of the series. There were two varieties, namely (α) corbel vaults and (β) stone slabs.

- (α) Three graves shewed traces of corbel-roofing², but in none of the three was the vault complete, and it was only by comparing them with other graves on the site that they could be recognised as corbel vaults at all³.
- (β) Of the second of these forms of roofing there were some five examples, each with one or more of the stones in position. The slabs, rough-hewn blocks of limestone, of

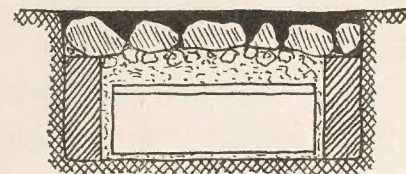


Figure 3.

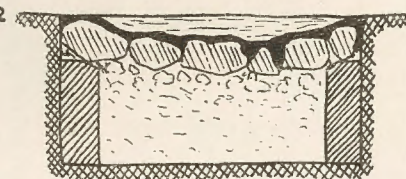


Figure 4.



Figure 5.

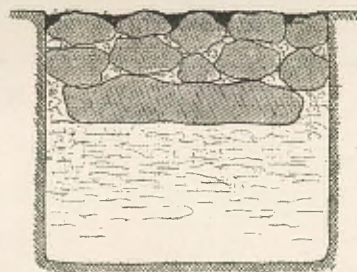


Figure 6.

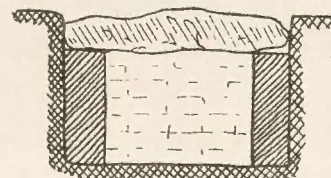


Figure 7.

¹ In dry ground the presence of a coffin can almost always be noted, even when the wood has entirely rotted away; but in damp soil, such as we have in this cemetery, all trace is frequently lost.

² For a full description of corbel-vaulting see Vol. II page 12.

³ The three corbel-vaulted tombs in this cemetery were all of the stairway type. There were no closed corbels either in this cemetery or in the cemeteries which preceded it. Open corbels die out in II dynasty: closed begin in IV. Therefore closed corbels were not a direct development from open, but were a copied type.

which four or five were needed to cover a grave, were placed across the pit with their ends resting on and supported by the pit-lining (Fig. 7). When all were in position the upper surface was covered with a coating of mud. Unfortunately all the graves of this type were plundered and stood open, so that there was no direct evidence either for or against the filling of the pit. Judging from examples of this type of tomb in cemetery 500 the pit was not filled.

The filled pit is a direct development, or rather degradation, from the slab-roofed pit. Stones large enough and regular enough to cover a pit took trouble to prepare, while smaller stones presented difficulties in the way of propping up; and so it gradually came about that the pit was filled and the covering stones rested on the filling. The cases mentioned above, where the covering stones were supported on long slabs, placed presumably on the coffin, afford an interesting example of the way in which the one method of covering developed out of the other.

Two other methods of pit covering require notice:—

- (α) Where the pit, filled as usual with sand and stones, was covered with thin flakes of stone (see plate 18). Two examples of this were found (N. 4992 and 5195).
- (β) Where the pit was covered at II dynasty level with a layer either of bricks or of small rough stones. Two examples (N. 4944 and 5147) were found, both belonging to the latest type of tombs in the series. In neither case was there any filling between this covering and the burial. The covering, however, was perfectly flat, and must originally have been supported on something, which we may presume to have been the coffin (Fig. 8).

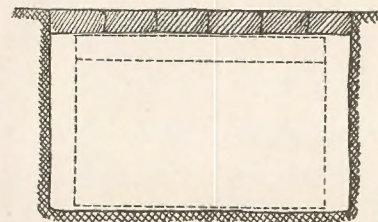


Figure 8.

With three exceptions the pits in this cemetery have no entrance passages, the burial being deposited from above. The three exceptions are the pits belonging to the corbel-vaulted tombs, one of which has a stairway opening from the west side (see plate 7a), while the other two have sloping passages, opening from the west and north sides respectively (7b). The reason is sufficiently obvious. A corbel vault, except on a very small scale, such as we get in the IV dynasty closed corbel, could only be constructed from the inside, and an entrance passage was therefore a necessary part of the tomb construction. In slab-roofed or ordinary filled graves, where the work was done from the outside, the passage has no object. In later tombs, where the burial chamber was excavated deep down in the bed-rock, and elaborate superstructures were built, prior to the burial, the passage again became necessary¹.

2. Superstructure.

With the filling in and covering over of the pit we reach a very definite stage in the construction of the tomb. The grave *qua* grave is complete, but the most elaborate part of

¹ Apparently it was not until the third dynasty that the custom of preparing an elaborate tomb before death came into fashion. If there was any preparation in the earlier graves it was confined to the actual burial chamber. The earliest examples of *superstructures* built before the burial were those containing seals of Sa-nekht and Neter-khet, found by GARSTANG at Mahasna.

the structure has yet to be added. The earliest known superstructures date from the beginning of the Ist dynasty, and from then onwards are practically universal. In the predynastic period no certain traces of superstructures have yet been found. The superstructure, if it existed, must have been of so flimsy a character that all trace was speedily lost.

The superstructures in this cemetery may be divided into two main classes, according to the material of which they were constructed, namely stone and brick.

Stone superstructure. A. Only five examples of stone superstructures were found, all five occurring in small graves. With one exception (see page 28) this superstructure was merely a continuation of the stone filling, the upper surface being roughly arched over and covered with mud (Fig. 9). It extended about 20 centimetres beyond the edge of the pit on each side, and rose from 20-40 cm. above II dynasty level. It is possible that in all these five cases the original intention was to construct a superstructure of the usual type, but the brick retaining walls were from motives of economy, or some other reason, never added.

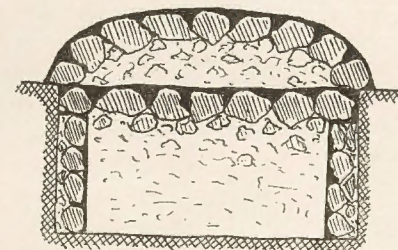


Figure 9.

Brick superstructures. B. With the exception of the class just mentioned probably all the tombs of this cemetery had brick superstructures.

With many of the tombs no trace of such structure remained; but these for the most part occurred on the lower part of the cemetery, and the absence of superstructure was due to the denudation of the ground. In the higher part of the cemetery, where there had been less wearing away, superstructures were practically universal.

In general character these superstructures were all of one type (Fig. 10). They were constructed of crude brick, and consisted of four walls, built to enclose the pit, with one, or more often two, small offering niches on the outer face of the west side. The better preserved examples had always two niches, and it is possible that originally all had. Some of the niches were so rudimentary that but a very small amount of weathering would be enough to destroy all trace of them. The size of the enclosure naturally varied with the size of the pit. As a rule there was a space of about 10-20 cm. between the inside face of the wall and the edge of the pit; though occasionally the wall overlapped the pit, and in one case the entire area of the superstructure was smaller than that of the pit (see page 23).

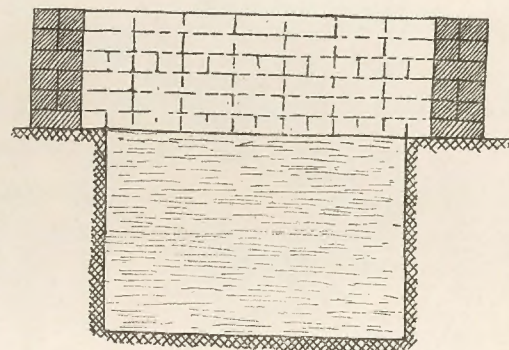


Figure 10.

Size of bricks and method of laying.

The approximate size of the bricks used was $26 \times 12\frac{1}{2} \times 7$ cm. In width the walls shewed considerable variation, ranging from 12 cm. (i. e. half brick) to 50 (two bricks). The original height of the construction was in almost every case doubtful: the present height varied from a single course to 70 cm. A common method of laying the bricks consisted in double courses of stretchers between single courses of headers, though alternate courses of headers and stretchers were also used. Where the wall was so narrow that only half brick



Figure 11.

could be used, the method of laying was that shown in Fig. 11. In one or two cases bricks were laid on their edges, but this was very rare, and was only adopted for a practical purpose, i. e. that of levelling.

That these superstructures were built subsequent to the burial is proved by the following facts. *Superstructure built after burial.*

- (a) The walls were in many cases askew to the original direction of the pit. This would be likely enough to happen when the pit was filled and its mouth covered with rough irregular stones; whereas walls built round an open pit, whose direction was plainly visible, would almost certainly be parallel to it.
- (β) The inner face of the superstructure wall in many cases overlapped the side of the pit, and in one case the whole wall overlapped.
- (γ) The stones of the filling frequently ran right underneath the walls of the superstructure (see Fig. 12 and also plates 13^d and 14^e), proving conclusively that the burial was placed in position and the pit filled before the upper structure was taken in hand.

Assuming, from the analogy of other cemeteries, that the space between the superstructure walls was always filled in—in other words that the tombs were filled mastabas—we must conclude that in this cemetery the majority of the graves, and those the earliest, were filled with mere loose sand and rubbish. Gravel and stone fillings occur, but only in a few instances, among the later graves of the series (see plates 24, 25, 26 and 27).

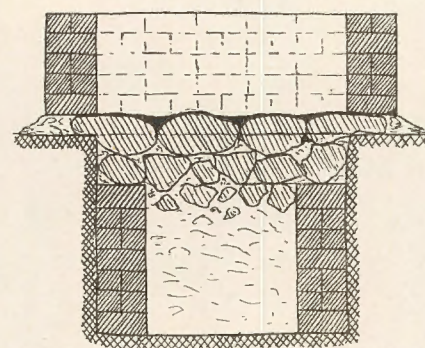


Figure 12.

Filling of superstructure.

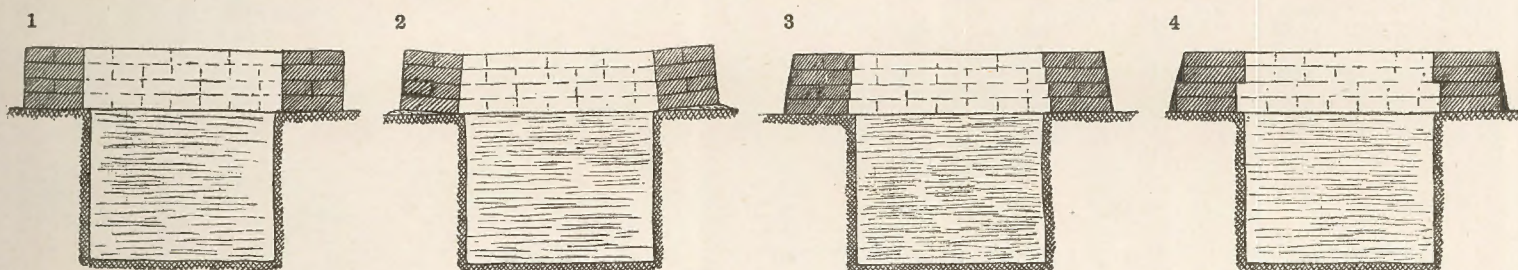


Figure 13.

In the majority of cases the faces of these retaining walls were vertical (Fig. 13, 1). In a few instances, however, we find a distinct lean inwards, either of all four walls, or, more usually, of the side walls only (Fig. 13, 2). In the first case the superstructure was probably filled after the completion of the retaining walls, while in the second the filling and building of the walls were carried on simultaneously. Later this inward lean was obviated by overlapping the courses of bricks (Fig. 13, 3), the vacant space on the outside being filled with mud. In the case of (4) two courses were built and filled in, then a second two, and so on till the superstructure was complete. In another part of the site similar cases of partial filling occur in graves 561 and 739.

The tops of the earlier superstructures were probably flat, though none were sufficiently well preserved to afford definite evidence. In some of the later graves, however, we have *Roofing of superstructure.*

roughly arched coverings of stone, or of mixed brick and stone, rising from the tops of the superstructure walls (Fig. 13A). These were built on the filling and were covered with a coating of mud.

Niches.

The niches were of two kinds, simple (Fig. 14) and compound (Fig. 15), the difference in style being due to personal preference or motives of economy rather than to a difference in

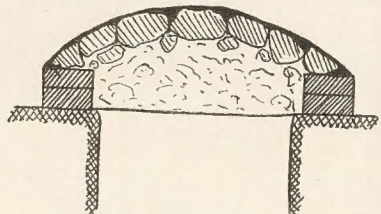


Figure 13A.

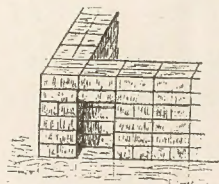


Figure 14.

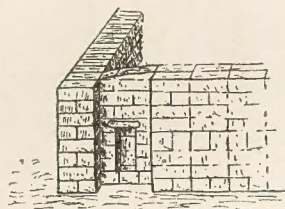


Figure 15.

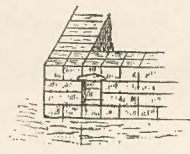


Figure 16.

date. In height the niches varied from 10-36 cm., starting sometimes from the ground (Fig. 14) and sometimes after the first course of bricks (Fig. 16), or even higher. Simple niches varied in width from 7-33 cm., and in depth from 8-14. Compound niches varied in width from 26-41, and in depth range from 11-16 in the outer measurement, and from 9-16 in the inner. It not infrequently happened that the depth of the niche exceeded the width of the wall, and to meet this irregular masses of brickwork were added behind. In some cases, however, where the wall was just wide enough, the niche was backed by nothing but a mere coat of mud plaster.

Niches of such diminutive size as many of these were hardly seem to need lintels to cover them, but to the conservative Egyptian the question of the utility or non-utility of a custom was of small import compared with the necessity of carrying out a recognized law. Niches were always covered with lintels, and therefore these niches, tiny as they were, must each have its tiny lintel. Scraps of decomposed wood in one of the niches showed that wooden lintels were occasionally used, but the common lintel in this cemetery consisted of a limestone flake or a flat desert flint. A curious feature about one of these simple niches was that, though it was broken at the usual height by a limestone flake lintel, the niche itself was continued to the top of the wall (see plate 8^d).

Enclosure walls.

As the niches were the places before which offerings were laid, it is only natural, and in accordance with the general Egyptian custom, to expect some sort of provision to be made for the reception and protection of such offerings. Unfortunately the disturbed condition of the cemetery renders our evidence on this point somewhat fragmentary. Traces of mud or brick pavements were found in front of the west faces of several tombs, and these pavements or platforms were bounded, in the best preserved examples, by dwarf enclosure walls (see plate 27^{e, f}). In no case was this pavement perfectly preserved, but a comparison of the various remains gives us Fig. 17 as the usual type for small tombs. That these enclosures were built after the completion of the tomb proper is evident from the fact that the dwarf walls were never bonded into the main walls. The width of these enclosures seems to have varied from about 30-70 cm.

In cases where tombs were constructed close together, the back wall of one tomb was

sometimes made to serve as the enclosure wall of the tomb behind it, side walls being run across from the one tomb to the other, and the space between paved with mud (Fig. 18).

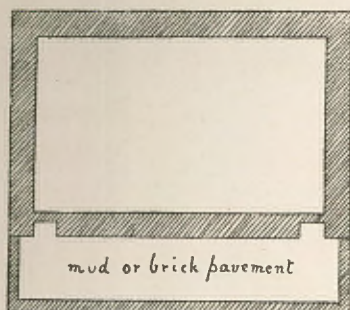


Figure 17.

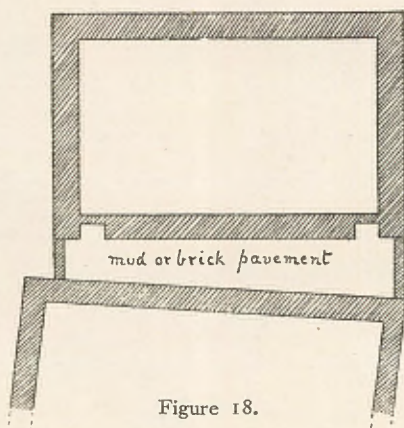


Figure 18.

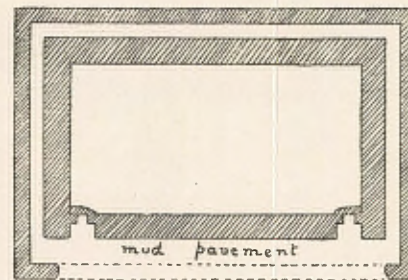


Figure 19.

Two of the larger graves had had enclosure walls on all four sides of the main structure. In the one case (Fig. 19) a space of 40 cm. on the west side and about 25 on the other three sides separated the enclosure wall from the main wall, and this space was paved with mud. In the other case only the east and north sides were preserved (see plate 24^a).

We have no direct evidence as to the actual height of these enclosure walls, but we can at least be sure that they were considerably lower than the walls of the main structure. No doorway of any sort was needed, as, owing to the smallness of the enclosure, the offerings

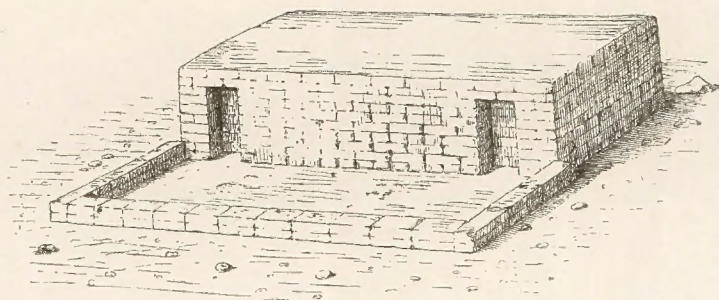


Figure 20.

could easily be deposited from the outside. Fig. 20, restored from the collective evidence of several examples, gives an idea of what the original appearance of tomb and enclosure must have been.

All walls were faced, both inside and out, with a thick coating of mud plaster. On the outer faces the remains of an additional coating of thin stucco could frequently be traced, and it is probable that the use of stucco was universal in all the graves of the cemetery. This whitening of the superstructure is characteristic of all Egyptian graves, of whatever period, and is in use among both Mohammedans and Copts at the present day. In one case, while the north, east and south sides of the superstructure were left white, the west side, with the niches, was painted a dull red (cp. Vol. II page 7).

*Use of stucco
and paint.*

II. CLASSIFICATION OF TOMBS.

*Four graves
definitely
earlier than
main group.*

THE early graves of the cemetery are approximately all of the same date, and group themselves naturally into one connected series. There are four graves, however, which are distinct both from the rest and from one another, and which need special notice.

N. 4373.

The first, no. 4373, is a shallow pit of the late-middle predynastic period (see plate 33^a). The grave is small and poor, and from the point of view of tomb-construction contains nothing of importance. It will be sufficient, therefore, merely to note its occurrence.

*N. 3551, 4598
and 4990.*

The other three graves (N. 3551, 4598 and 4990) have two peculiarities that definitely distinguish them from the main group, namely entrance passages and corbel-vaulting. They are certainly earlier than the main group, and, judging from the evidence of cemetery 3000 (see Vol. II), they belong to the latter half of the II dynasty.

Main group.

We can now turn our attention to the main group of early tombs, which comprises some 150 examples. In dealing with such a large group, we shall naturally find that though the general idea of the tomb is the same, there is yet considerable variation in the minor details of construction; and it will greatly simplify matters if we can subdivide this large group into a number of smaller ones. We shall perhaps accomplish this most easily by drawing up a table of the various details of construction. We can then compare each tomb with the table, and by a process of elimination find out which of the details occur together and which do not, and so, gradually, work out the grouping of the tombs themselves.

*Method of
subdivision.*

*Table of
details of tomb
construction.*

1. Secondary hole cut in pit to receive burial. Occurs with 2, 3, 4, 9, 13, 15, 18.
2. Pit lined with brick. Occurs with 1, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18.
3. Pit lined with stone. Occurs with 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11, 13, 17, 18.
4. Pit filled and covered with rough stones. Occurs with 1, 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18.
5. Coating of mud plaster above stones. Occurs with 2, 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18.
6. Pit covered with thin flat stones. Occurs with 3.
7. Pit covered with three or four large dressed stones. Occurs with 2, 5, 9, 13.
8. Stone filling continued above II dyn. level to form a primitive superstructure. Occurs with 3, 4, 17.
9. Brick superstructure. Occurs with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18.
10. Superstructure filled in with rough stones. Occurs with 2, 4, 5, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17.
11. Superstructure wall built with inward lean. Occurs with 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 16, 18.
12. Rough arching over brick superstructure. Occurs with 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 17.
13. Niche. Occurs with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18.
14. Mud or brick platform before west face. Occurs with 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18.
15. Enclosure wall. Occurs with 1, 2, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, 14, 16, 18.
16. Use of stucco and paint. Occurs with 2, 4, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 18.
17. Use of wooden coffin. Occurs with 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14.
18. Use of pottery coffin. Occurs with 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16.

Of the numbers in this table 2, 3, 4, 5, 9 and 13 are in close connection, and each occurs with most of the other numbers. We have therefore a basis for a primary group:—

*Details of
construction
classified
and grouped.*

A. Brick or stone-lined pit, covered with rough stones coated with mud; niched superstructure.

Now let us take the other numbers one by one, and see which may belong to this group, and which are definitely contradictory to it.

1 occurs with all the other numbers of our primary group except 5. It was not noted in connection with 5, but this was due to the fact that all except one of the graves in which this peculiarity was found were plundered. We may assume, therefore, that secondary pits occur as a variant in our primary group.

In 6 and 7 we get distinct variations from the primary group in the matter of pit coverings, and have thus the starting points of two new groups:—

B. Stone-lined pit, covered with thin flat stones.

C. Brick-lined pit, covered with large dressed slabs of stone; brick niched superstructure.

8 gives us another variation, the superstructure being of stone instead of brick, and we thus get a fourth group:—

D. Stone-lined pit, with rough stone filling; filling continued above II dynasty level to form a superstructure.

10 was only found in connection with the primary group.

11 and 12 have all the distinguishing points of the primary group, with the additional peculiarities of leaning walls and arched superstructures. They take their place then as subdivisions of this group.

14 and 15 belong clearly to the primary group.

16. Naturally the evidence of the use of stucco and paint was the first to disappear. Stucco at any rate was probably used on all brick superstructures, and so would belong to A and C.

17. As we have stated, wooden coffins had in most cases entirely rotted away, so that our evidence with regard to their use is inconclusive. In any case they occurred both with the primary group and with D.

18. Pottery coffins occur with the primary group only. They were used apparently in the poorer graves.

We have thus to deal with four groups of tombs, one of which must be further subdivided into three parts.

A₁ Pit with or without secondary hole; lined with brick or stone; filled with sand and stones and covered with rough stones which were plastered over with mud; brick superstructure with niches; superstructure filled in with sand and stones, or rough stones alone; mud or brick platform with dwarf enclosure wall on west side, or more rarely on all four sides; wooden or pottery coffin.

Group A₁.

A₂ Pit usually unlined, but one case of brick lining found and two of stone; one example unfilled, but usually filled and covered as in A₁; brick superstructure with niches; superstructure walls built with an inward lean; mud or brick platform before west face; wooden or pottery coffin.

Group A₂.

- Group A₃.* A₃ Pit unlined; either filled and covered as in A₁, or unfilled and roofed with a flat covering of brick or small stones (resting on coffin?); brick niched superstructure; mud or brick platform in front of west face; walls of superstructure either straight, or built with an inward lean; at top of superstructure walls rough arching of stone or brick; only wooden coffins found.
- Group B.* B. Pit lined with stone, filled with sand, and covered with three or four thin flakes of limestone. The only examples found were on the lower part of the cemetery, so probably there were originally brick superstructures.
- Group C.* C. Pit lined with brick, a space being sometimes left between lining wall and side of pit; in one case remains of a partition wall, dividing the grave into two parts; pit unfilled; roofed with three or four large dressed slabs of stone, which rested on the brick lining; above slabs a coating of mud; brick superstructure with niches; no trace of coffin found, but possibly wooden ones were used.
- Group D.* D. Unlined or stone lined pit; usually filled with sand and small stones, but in one example unfilled; mud-plastered stone superstructure, with a flat or roughly arched top.

Comparative dating of groups. We have next to consider the question of the comparative dating of these groups. There are three different kinds of evidence to which we must refer, gained respectively from tomb construction (a), from the objects found (b), and from the relative position of the graves in the cemetery (c).

a. *Evidence gained from differences of tomb construction.*

Starting, as in chapter II, with the bottom of the grave, and working gradually upwards, we find that the question of pit lining-walls gives us our first point of difference between the groups.

Evidence gained from differences of lining walls. In B, C, D and A₁ linings were the rule, but in A₂ and ₃ we find the lining tending to disappear; and since the lining, as we pointed out above, is practically universal in early graves, and diminishes in size as it loses its main object—that of supporting the roofing beams of wood or slabs of stone—we may conclude that A₂ and ₃ are the latest of our groups. Further group C, where the linings are most in evidence, and are put to a definite use, must be the earliest. In one of the graves of the C group moreover, we have the remains of a partition wall in addition to the lining walls, a peculiarity common enough in the I and II dynasty tombs of cemeteries 1500 and 3000, but with this one exception non-existent in this cemetery. Brick lining appears to be earlier than stone, but the difference may be only apparent, as the richer classes would use brick for their graves where the poorer would content themselves with the more easily procured stone.

From differences of pit-coverings. Next as to the filling and covering of the pit. Here the evidence points clearly to C as the earliest of our groups. In this group the pits were roofed with large roughly-dressed slabs of stone, of which three, or at the most four, sufficed to cover a pit—a style of roofing which was certainly borrowed from the wooden roofing beams of the earlier dynasties¹. In

¹ QUIBELL notes a group of slab-roofed graves at Kom el Ahmar (Hierakonpolis II page 26): Also one example at El Kab (page 6). In both cases the slabs were of sandstone. The Kom el Ahmar graves belong to the II dynasty, while that from El Kab is probably III.

our main group (A_1) we have a direct development, or perhaps it would be better to say a degradation, from this type; the stones becoming gradually smaller, and owing their support to the coffin or the filling of the pit rather than to the lining. In group A_3 the stones had become quite small, or had even given place to brick. In group B the pit was filled, and the type is therefore later than C; while D, both in filling and covering, is of the same type as A_1 .

The superstructures of C and A_1 are identical. In the two examples of B the superstructures, if any, had been destroyed. In D there are no brick superstructures, the site of the grave being marked by a rough mound of stone covered with mud. In other respects, however, the graves are similar to the A type, and we may assume that the absence of the brick structure was caused by chance or personal preference rather than by a difference in date. In A_2 and A_3 we find changes taking place in the construction of the superstructure walls, changes which seem to imply that the filling of the superstructures was carried out on a different principle. In all the earlier mastabas the enclosing walls were straight, and the space between them was presumably filled in after they had reached the required height. In A_2 and A_3 the walls were built with a very definite inward lean, suggesting a casing rather than an enclosing wall. Here, however, we have no definite inner core such as we get in mastabas of the Gizeh type, and we must suppose that the building and filling took place simultaneously. In some cases this idea is further developed by a method of building and filling in successive stages, in the manner described in chapter II.

From differences of super-structures.

b. *Evidences gained from the objects found.*

Our evidence in this connection is but scanty. The graves were all poor, and the better ones were as a rule completely plundered. There is only one class of object which occurs regularly throughout the whole series, and that is the common rough pot (see plates 49-54). This pot, as we shall shew in chapter VI, has a long range, in the course of which it changes its shape from a symmetrical type with well developed shoulders and pointed foot to a mere formless cylinder. In groups of tombs so closely connected in date as these were, it would be impossible to draw any very definite conclusions, but we can at least be certain that the pots found in A_2 and A_3 are later in type than those of the other groups.

From differences in the objects found.

c. *Evidence gained from the relative position of the graves in the cemetery.*

Egyptian cemeteries usually extend fairly regularly in one direction or another, and it is possible in almost every case to determine which end of the cemetery was first taken into use. In this cemetery we are fortunate enough to have four tombs which are definitely earlier than any of the others, and we can thus, without reference to the main group, settle which was the earliest part of the cemetery. Looking at the general map (plate 58) we see that the earliest of these tombs, the predynastic (no. 4373), was situated on the extreme edge of the northern slope. The next in point of date (3551) was constructed on the north-western point next the cultivation; while the other two (4598 and 4990) were also at the northern end.

From relative position of graves in the cemetery.

Assuming then that the northern was the early end of the cemetery, let us see what were the relative positions of our groups.

The graves of the C group were all on the northern side, with the exception of 4734, which occupied a prominent position in the centre. Those of the B group were in the northern half. The D group were scattered over the centre and southern end. A₁ occurred in all parts of the cemetery. A₂ and 3, with two exceptions, were all in the southern half; the exceptions, 4337 and 4136, being in the centre.

In some few cases it was possible to determine which of two adjoining graves was the earlier. For example in four instances the back wall of an earlier grave was made to serve as an enclosure wall to a later grave in the manner shewn on page 13. Thus 4376 and 4991 (which belong either to group C or to the beginning of A) were later than 5175 (C) and 4774 (C) respectively: 4974 (A₁) was later than 4975 (A₁), and 5105 (A₂) was later than 4506 (A₁). Again in the case of 4900 (A₂) and 4906 (D), 4900 was clearly the later, as its superstructure was built over and partially concealed by that of 4906.

Conclusions. Thus our evidence all goes to shew that C is the earliest of the groups, and that A₂ and 3 are the latest. A₁ follows directly on C and leads naturally into A₂ and 3. B is certainly later than C, and is probably contemporaneous with A₁. D, with the exception of superstructure, has all the A characteristics, and in one case has the pit covering peculiar to A₃.

Actual dating. Now as to actual dating,—the C group is later than the corbel-vaulted graves, which we know belong to late II dynasty (see page 5), and this fact gives us the end of the II dynasty as our earliest limit. Can we similarly fix a late limit? In the first place we have none of the closed corbels which, on another part of the site, were found to be characteristic of the IV dynasty. None of the pottery found is of the well known IV dynasty type, while the graves themselves are so similar in motive that the whole series could only have covered a comparatively short space of time. It is dangerous of course to attempt to fix too precisely the date of any given series of graves, but I think we have evidence enough to assert that group C, and probably the earlier graves of A₁, belong to the latter half of the II dynasty, while the remainder of the series range over the whole of the III dynasty and possibly into the beginning of the IV.

III.

DESCRIPTION OF TOMBS.

1. N. 4373, 3551, 4598 and 4990.

N. 4373. 4373 (pl. 33^a) was a sporadic burial of the late-middle predynastic period. The grave, roughly oval in shape, was constructed in the gravel slope at the northern edge of the cemetery, and had necessarily, from its position, suffered considerably from denudation, the burial being only just below the surface. The body was in the usual predynastic contracted position, on the left side, head south, face west. With the burial there were two black-

topped pots, both of the *Naqada* B 58 type, and a bowl of a type somewhat similar to L 21 (pl. 49^a). The larger of the pots was empty, but the smaller one and the bowl both contained remains of a brownish vegetable (?) substance. By the hands there were traces of rush-work, probably from a bag, and a few scraps of malachite. In the filling of the grave there was a rough flint (pl. 45, b, 1).

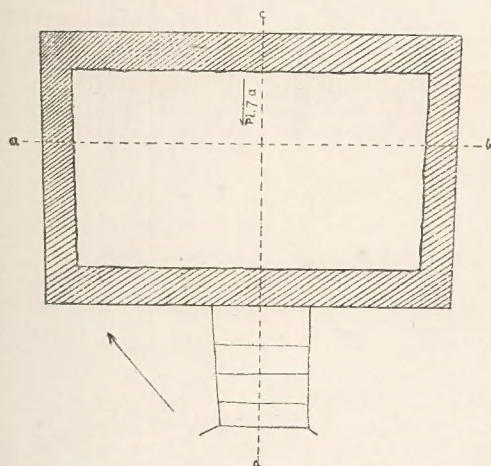


Fig. 21. N. 3551. Ground-plan. 1:100.

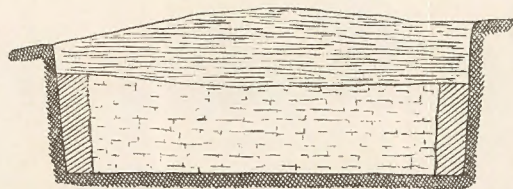


Figure 22. Section a...b. 1:100.

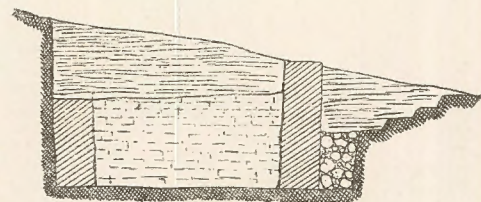


Fig. 23. Section c...d. 1:100.

N. 3551. 3551 (pl. 7^a) was a large stairway-tomb of the II dynasty, similar in type to those described in volume II. As may be seen from the plan and sections here given (Figs. 21-23), the tomb was roughly rectangular in shape, had a brick lining, and an entrance by means of a rough stairway on the west side.

Pits of this type are usually corbel-vaulted: this one was probably no exception to the rule, though the denudation of the surface and the decomposition of the brick lining had combined to destroy the evidence for or against. The stairway, which was roughly cut, consisted of three shallow steps and one deep one, the space between this last step and the brick lining being filled in with flint boulders. The entrance appeared to be blocked completely by the brick lining of the pit. In this type of grave, however, there is always a doorway through the lining, which is filled up after the burial, and there must have been one here, though a careful examination revealed no trace of it.

The burial was plundered, but in the filling of the pit there were a number of broken alabaster vases (pl. 45^a).

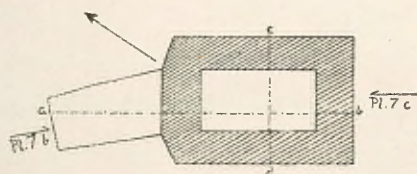


Fig. 24. N. 4598. Ground-plan. 1:100.

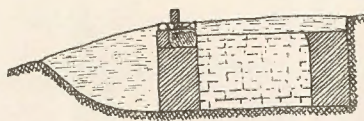


Fig. 25. Section a...b. 1:100.



Fig. 26. Section c...d. 1:100.

N. 4598. In 4598 (see plate 7^b and 7^c) we have a sloping entrance passage (not a stairway) from the north. The pit was brick lined, and the construction of the upper part of the lining seems to point clearly to corbel-vaulting. The doorway was blocked with a mixture of brick-work and rough stones. At the north end, above the blocking, there was a narrow supplementary wall, which was probably the remains of a superstructure.

The grave had been plundered through the roof, and of the burial deposits nothing remained but fragments of rough pottery.

N. 4990. 4990 had a sloping entrance passage on the west side, the door, however, being at the north end of the pit, and not, like 3551, in the middle. The pit was brick-lined and shewed distinct traces of corbel vaulting. The blocking of the doorway had been removed by

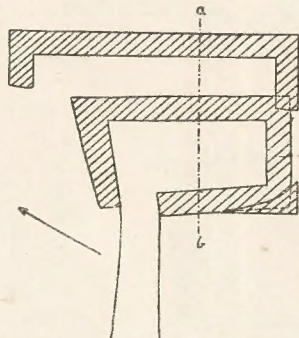


Fig. 27. N. 4990. Ground-plan. 1:100.

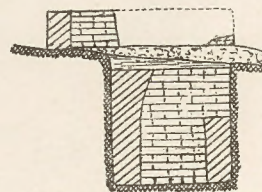


Fig. 28. Section a...b. 1:100.

plunderers: it had probably been similar to that of the preceding tomb. There were also remains of a brick superstructure, of the type common in the main group of tombs.

The burial was gone. In the filling of the pit there were pieces of a large rough pot, of a large dull-red flat-bottomed pot, and of a saucer, rough outside and roughly pebble-burnished inside. This last fragment had been used by the plunderers as a scraper.

2. Group C.

C is the earliest of our sub-groups in point of date, and so we take it first.

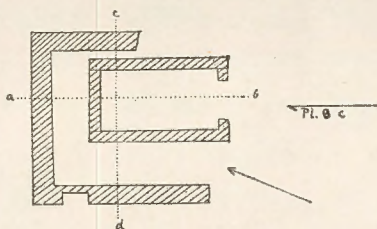


Fig. 29. N. 4774. Ground-plan. 1:100.

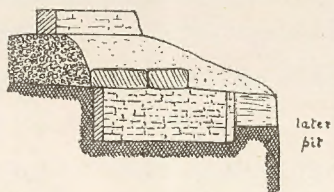


Fig. 30. Section a...b. 1:100.

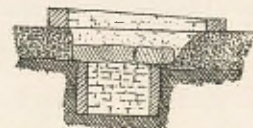


Fig. 31. Section c...d. 1:100.

N. 4774. 4774 (pl. 8^c) was the best preserved grave of the group. One end was broken away and the burial was plundered, probably at the time when the later pit was sunk, but enough remained to shew all the points of construction. The lining, of brick mixed with a few stones, reached to bed-rock level, and the roofing stones, of which three remained, rested squarely upon it. At the north end, instead of a single slab running right across the pit, there were two smaller ones, meeting in the middle and partly supported by the northern lining wall. The space between these roofing stones and the top of the superstructure walls was filled with loose rubbish. Only the northern niche remained.

As the sections shew, the pit was constructed, partly in the limestone bed-rock, and partly in the gravel deposit which had accumulated above it. With the exception of a few examples in the upper part of the cemetery all the graves were similarly constructed, but it has not been considered necessary to mark in every case this distinction between rock level and gravel level.

The grave had been thoroughly plundered out, but *underneath* the lining wall on the east side there was a fragment of a pottery dish of the type shewn in plate 50^b, rough outside, widely pebble-burnished inside.

4370 and 4379 were probably slightly earlier than the above.

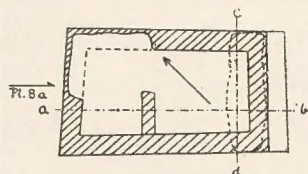


Fig. 32. N. 4370. Ground-plan. 1:100.



Fig. 33. Section a...b. 1:100.

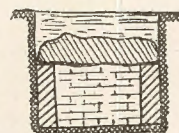


Fig. 34. Section c...d. 1:100.

In 4370 (pl. 8^a) a space of 26 centimetres was left between the lining wall and the south side of the pit. There was also a broken partition wall running east and west, which may originally have reached right across to the other side of the pit, and divided it into two parts. The southernmost of the roofing stones was still in position but the others had been removed. The superstructure had entirely disappeared.

N. 4370.

The burial was plundered, and the pit only contained a flint scraper (pl. 45^b, 10), and scraps of several alabaster vases.

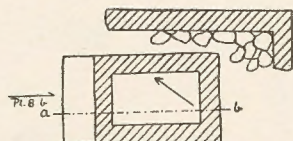


Fig. 35. N. 4379. Ground-plan. 1:100.

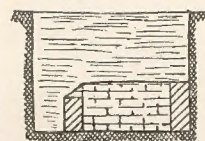


Fig. 36. Section a...b. 1:100.

4379 (pl. 8^b) had a similar space of 40 centimetres between lining wall and pit at the north end. One of the roofing stones still rested across the lining walls, though it had apparently been moved somewhat out of position. Part of the superstructure remained, and an additional covering of rough stones seems to have been put over the grave at the level of the bottom of the superstructure walls.

N. 4379.

Nothing remained of the burial deposits.

Two other graves belong to this group. Both were badly plundered, but in each case one of the roofing slabs remained.

5175 had the usual brick lining. At the south end of the western superstructure wall there was a compound niche: the northern end was broken away.

N. 5175.

The burial was plundered.

Underneath the lining wall at the north-west corner there was a copper ewer (pl. 47^a), and resting upon it there was a large piece of a flat alabaster offering table (pl. 10^f). Fragments of the same table and of other alabasters were found under other parts of the lining walls and in the filling (pl. 46, f. 1).

In 4734 the brick lining had all been removed, though traces still adhering to the sides of the pit shewed that it had existed. The plunderers were probably well aware of the

N. 4734.

custom of building the lining walls over the objects. At the north end of the western superstructure wall there was a simple niche: the southern end of the wall was broken away (pl. 8^e). In the space between the roofing stones and the bottom of the superstructure there were five pots of the usual rough type and a piece of a rough dish (pl. 50^a).

*N. 4991, 4179
and 4376.*

Nos. 4991, 4179 and 4376 belong either to this group or to the beginning of the next. They occur at the early end of the cemetery, and the unusual width of the lining walls seems to warrant the supposition that they were intended to support large blocks. All three were disturbed.

4991 was absolutely plundered out.

4179 still contained the burial (adult, sex?, on left side, head N), and with it a broken alabaster dish (pl. 45^{c, 2}) and a small pottery vase with a thinly glazed surface (pl. 49^b).

4376 contained several broken alabasters (pl. 46^c), two rough pots of the usual shape, and some tiny model tools and dishes in copper (pl. 48^a).

3. Group A1.

N. 4771.

4771 (pl. 16) had a stone lining at the north end only. The actual burial was covered with loose sand, and on this, or possibly on a wooden coffin, the large rough covering stones

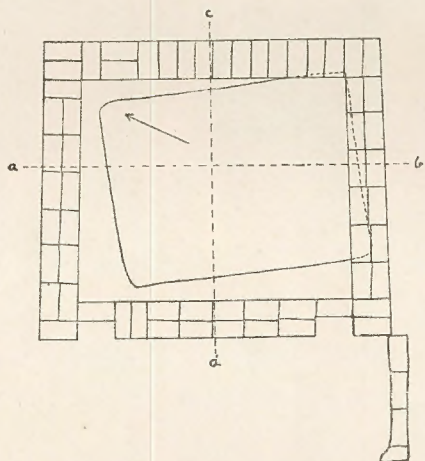


Fig. 37. N. 4771. Ground-plan. 1:50.

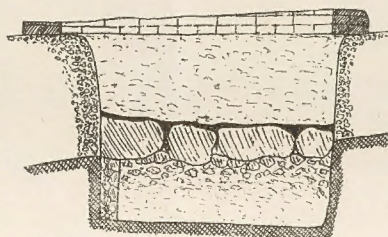


Fig. 38. Section a...b. 1:50.

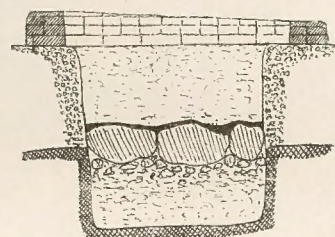


Fig. 39. Section c...d. 1:50.

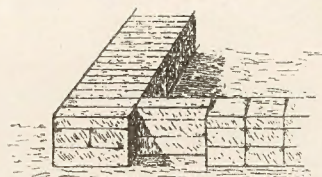


Fig. 40. Northern niche. 1:25.

were placed. Over the stones there was a thick coating of mud plaster, and above the grave was filled in with loose rubbish to the tops of the superstructure walls. Three or four courses of the superstructure walls remained, and on the west side there were also traces of an enclosure wall. In the west wall there were two simple niches, each one brick wide and half a brick deep. The superstructure was built askew to the pit, and on the south side completely overlapped it.

The body (adult, sex?) was on L side, head S, face W. With the burial there were seven rough pots, two rough pottery saucers (pl. 53^b), four alabasters (pl. 46^c), and a flint flake. Just above the left elbow there was a single carnelian barrel-shaped bead. Scattered in the grave there were a number of pieces of charcoal.

4572 (pl. 15) was similar to the above tomb in every way, with the single exception that the lining wall was of brick instead of stone. In the filling, just above the covering stones, there were two rough pots, with fragments of a third and of a pottery dish (for the latter see fig. 90). The burial (adult, male) was on L side, head S, face W. N. 4572.

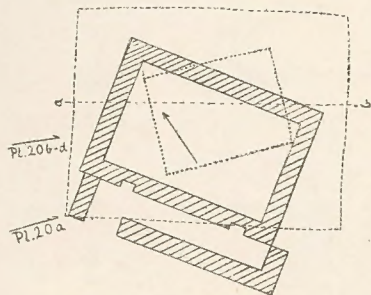


Fig. 41. N. 5302. Ground-plan. 1:50.

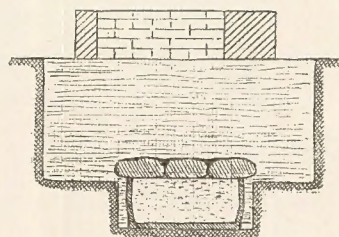


Fig. 42. Section a...b. 1:50.

5302 (pl. 20) had several interesting details of construction. In the first place it gave us an example of a secondary hole cut in the pit to receive the coffin. The coffin (pottery, pl. 55^a) had no lid, but was covered with flat pieces of stone fastened together and to the coffin with mud. When the coffin had been placed in position, the grave was filled and the superstructure was added. This is the clearest example we have of the fact that the building of the superstructure was subsequent to the burial. It is proved by the fact that the entire superstructure area was less than that of the burial pit, the walls being built directly on the filling. The orientation of the superstructure walls was so very different from that of the pit, that it seems probable that the direction of the pit even had been lost before the superstructure was added. In the west superstructure wall there were two simple niches, the southernmost of which still contained traces of a wooden lintel. In front of the west face there was a rudimentary enclosure wall. N. 5302.

Just outside the tomb at the south end there were three rough pots of the usual shape. The body (adult, female) was on L side, head S, face W. On the bones there were traces of cloth wrappings.

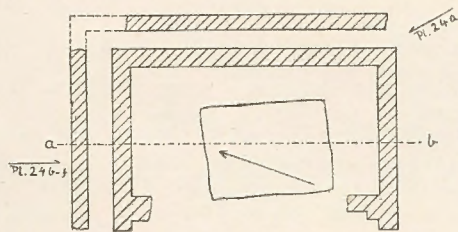


Fig. 43. N. 5103. Ground-plan. 1:100.

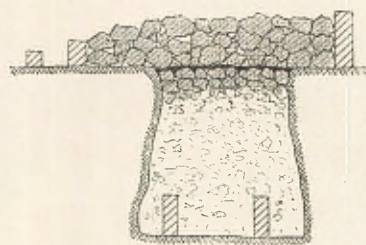


Fig. 44. Section a...b. 1:100.

5103 (pl. 24) was one of the largest tombs of the group, and presents several points of interest. The pit was brick lined, but on all four sides the lining walls stood away from the sides of the pit, the space thus left varying from 6 to 50 centimetres. No trace of a coffin was found, but presumably a wooden one had been used, as the pit was filled with sand and small stones up to II dynasty level. At this level the pit was covered with a coat of mud N. 5103.

plaster, and a similar filling, though composed of larger stones, continued above it to the tops of the superstructure walls. On the east and north sides there were remains of enclosure walls, outside the main superstructure walls, but unfortunately the western side of the superstructure was almost entirely destroyed, just enough remaining at either end to show that there had been two compound niches.

In the spaces between the lining walls and the sides of the pit there were ten rough pots and a rough saucer (pl. 51^a), while partly in these same spaces and partly under the lining walls there were several alabaster and limestone vases (pl. 46^b). These latter were almost without exception broken—intentionally broken at the time of the funeral (see page 36). Pieces of a diorite dish (no. 10 in the same plate) were found scattered in the upper filling. The burial (adult, male) was on L side, head S, face W.

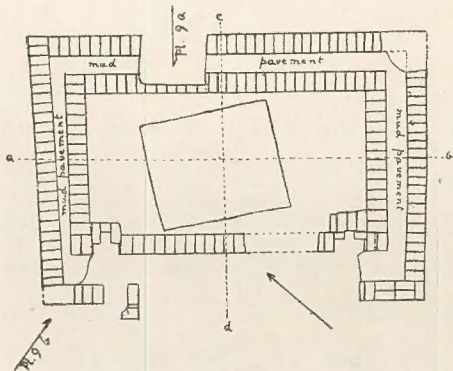


Fig. 45. N. 4506. Surface-plan. 1:100.

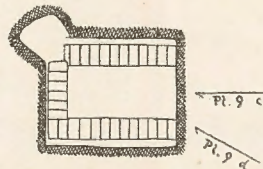


Fig. 46. Ground-plan. 1:100.

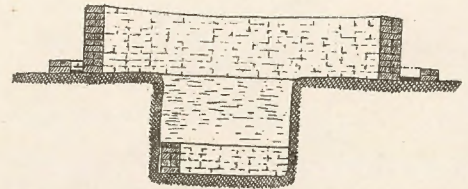


Fig. 47. Section a...b. 1:100.

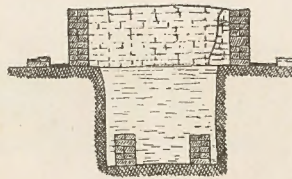


Fig. 48. Section c...d. 1:100.

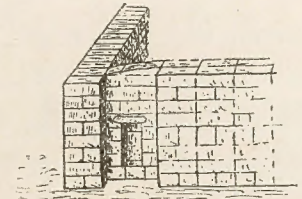


Fig. 49. Northern niche. 1:50.

N. 4506.

4506 (pl. 9) was the only other grave in the cemetery that shewed traces of an enclosure wall all round the superstructure. The filling of the pit was gone, and the burial plundered, but the grave almost certainly belonged to this group, and so may fitly be described here. As in the last grave a space was left between lining and pit, but here we get an addition in the shape of a niche, hollowed out of the bed-rock in one corner of the chamber.¹ The south side of the pit seems to have been unlined. The superstructure and enclosure walls were almost perfect, but unfortunately it was again the western side which had suffered most. In the west wall there were two compound niches, irregular masses of brickwork being added to the wall behind to support them.

Fig. 49 gives the northern of these niches, while 50 shews the method of alternating the courses of bricks and of binding at the corners.

Scattered about in the niche, on the floor of the chamber, and under the lining walls there were 5 broken alabaster vases (pl. 46^d), and a few model dishes and tools in copper (pl. 48^a).

N. 4139.

The pit of 4139 (pl. 11) had no lining of any kind. The usual covering stones were

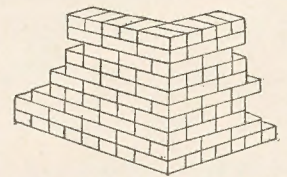


Fig. 50. North-east corner. 1:50.

¹ Similar niches occur in Cem. 500.

supported by a large block of stone, placed lengthwise in the pit, and covering about two thirds of it. Between this block and the actual burial there was a quantity of sand, but in all probability the stone originally either rested directly on a wooden coffin, or was at least

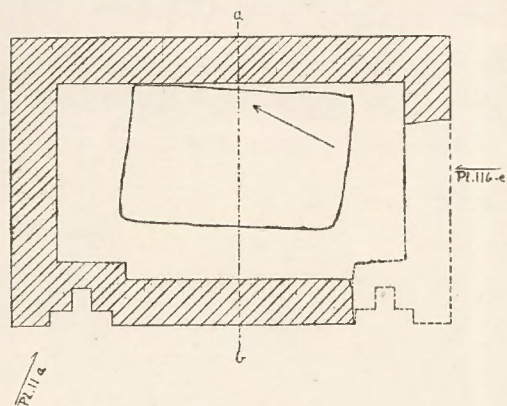


Fig. 51. N. 4139. Ground-plan. 1:50.

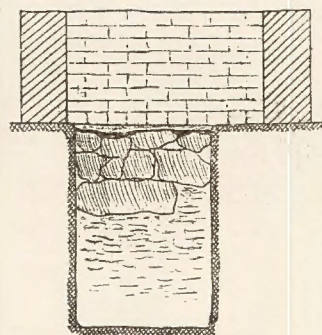


Fig. 52. Section a...b. 1:50.

partly supported by it. At the northern end of the west superstructure wall there was a compound niche: the southern end of the wall was destroyed.

In the pit near the burial there were four alabaster vases and one of limestone (pl. 46^c and 45^{c20}), one rough pot of the usual type, a flint flake (pl. 45^{b4}), a rough piece of slate which had probably been used for grinding paint, and a large carnelian disc bead. In the filling of the pit there was another flint flake (broken) and a small piece of malachite.

The body (adult, sex?) was on L side, head S, face W. By the head there was a single carnelian disc bead.

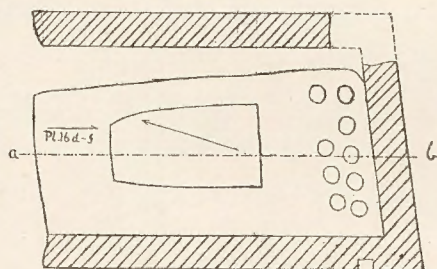


Fig. 53. N. 4573. Ground-plan. 1:50.

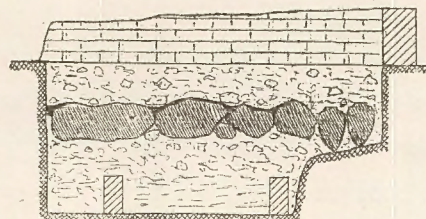


Fig. 54. Section a...b. 1:50.

4573 (pl. 16) was brick lined, the lining walls however standing out quite clear from the sides of the pit. The north side of the pit was straight, but the south side slanted away at a considerable angle. On this slant and built in with the covering stones, there were ten rough pots (pl. 50^a). Under the superstructure wall on the west side there were two pieces

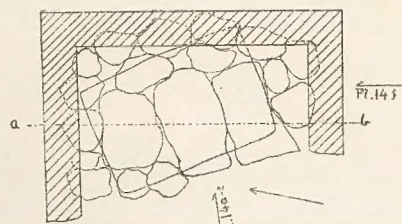


Fig. 55. N. 5397. Ground-plan. 1:50.

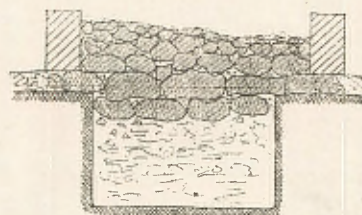


Fig. 56. Section a...b. 1:50.

of a pottery dish, rough outside, pebble burnished inside (pl. 50^a), while with the burial there were two alabasters (pl. 45^c, 13 and 19).

The body (adult, sex?) was on L side, head S, face W.

N. 5397. 5397 (pl. 14) had no lining walls. The pit was covered with a double layer of rough stones, which on three sides at any rate ran under the superstructure walls. The west side of the superstructure had been entirely destroyed. With the burial there were five rough pots (pl. 49^e 4-6), and an alabaster dish (pl. 46^f 2).

The body (adult, sex?) was almost over on back, head S, face W.

Other un plundered graves of this group were:—

5113 (pl. 36 ^e)	4712 (pl. 19)
4772 (pl. 15)	4707 (pl. 13)
5310 (pl. 12)	4716
4700 (pl. 12)	4547 (pl. 25)
4773 (pl. 17)	4548 (pl. 34 ^f)
5790	

while nine more, whose superstructures had entirely disappeared, but whose burials were un plundered, belong either to this group or to D:—

4336 (pl. 36 ^e)	4715 (pl. 34 ^e)
5306 (pl. 21)	5199 (pl. 22)
4912 (pl. 35 ^b)	4902 (pl. 17)
4749 (pl. 20)	4743 (pl. 21)
4705	

Of the plundered graves a large number can be assigned with almost absolute certainty to this group.

N. 3939. In 3939 the superstructure walls seem to have been built of one brick thickness to a certain height, and then continued to the top with only half brick; thus forming a kind of narrow retaining wall round the top of the structure. The burial had gone, but in the filling (pl. 10^e) there were seven small gold rings, a quantity of gold and silver beads (pl. 48^b), a few carnelian and shell beads, pieces of several ivory bracelets, a flint flake, some fragments of alabaster and scraps of malachite (pl. 47^e).

N. 4532. 4532 had a supplementary pit sunk in the floor of the chamber to receive the burial, the brick lining walls being built on the ledges thus formed. The northern and eastern superstructure walls only were preserved.

The body (adult, sex?) was on L side, head S, face W.

Scattered in the filling above the burial (pl. 10^a) there were pieces of twelve alabaster vases (pl. 46^a), two flint flakes, some copper needles, several shells containing kohl, some scraps of malachite (pl. 47^e), and two rough pots of the usual shape.

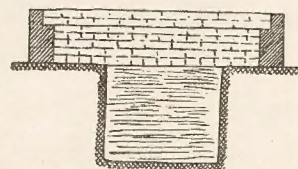


Fig. 57. N. 3939. Section. 1 : 100.

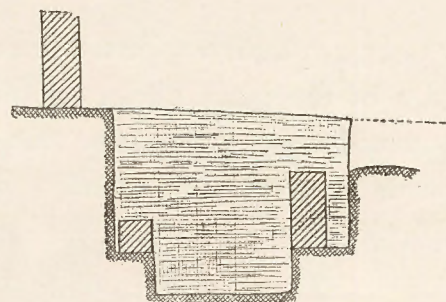


Fig. 58. N. 4532. Section. 1 : 50.

4974 (pl. 9) was brick lined and had the usual stone and mud covering. The north end of the superstructure had been destroyed. From the south end on the west side a narrow wall had been extended to the back wall of 4975. The enclosure thus formed was paved with mud, and both the pavement and the west face of the mastaba were first covered with white stucco, and then painted red. *N. 4974.*

In the enclosure there were four rough pots and two rough saucers, and in the filling of the pit there were two more pots and two pieces of a flat dish, rough outside and pebble-burnished inside (pl. 53^a). In the pit there was a broken pottery coffin (oval), but the body had been removed.

4975	4703	5341
4973	4505	5196
4770	4375 (pl. 38 ^a)	5148
4737	4131	4747 (pl. 33 ^f)
5597	5107	4709 (pl. 36 ^a)
5305	5596 (pl. 36 ^f)	4519 (pl. 33 ^e)
5149	4717 (pl. 33 ^d)	4504
4943 (pl. 33 ^c)	5304	4134
4735	4377	4148 (pl. 10 ^b)

*Other
tombs.*

4. Group B.

4992 (pl. 18) was stone lined, and built in with the lining there were three rough pots (pl. 53^a). The pit was filled with sand and small stones, and covered with thin slabs of roughly-dressed limestone, bound with mud. *N. 4992.*

The body (adult, male) was on L side, head S, face W.

5195 (pl. 18) had no lining. It was filled and covered as in the preceding grave, with the exception that at one end a thin flake of flint was used instead of limestone. *N. 5195.*

The body (adult, female) was on L side, head S, face W.

In both cases all trace of superstructure had disappeared.

5. Group D.

The pit of 5396 was lined with stones. Over the burial there was a filling of sand and small stones, with a covering of larger stones just below II dynasty level. Over this the filling continued to about 30 centimetres above II dynasty level, where it was covered with a rough arching of stones and mud. Built in with the lining there were three rough pots (pl. 49^e 1, 2, 3).

The body (adult, male), was on L side, head S, face W.

4906 (pl. 35^f) had also a stone lining. The pit was filled and covered with rough stones and mud, the tops of these covering stones being about 30 centimetres below II dynasty level. *N. 4906.*

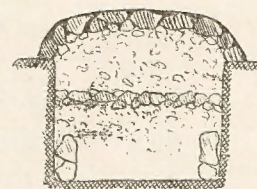


Fig. 59. N. 5396. Section.
1:50.

Above this there were more layers of rough stones, which spread out some distance above and beyond the sides of the pit to form a superstructure, and were covered with a coating of mud plaster. This superstructure had been considerably disturbed, and its original height could not be determined: part of it was concealed by the superstructure of 4900.

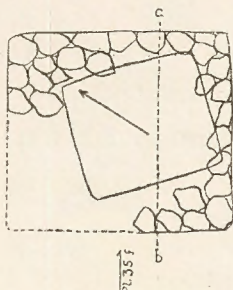


Fig. 60. N. 4906. Ground-plan. 1:50.

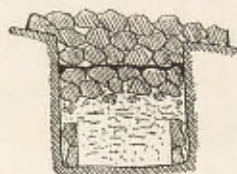


Fig. 61. Section a...b. 1:50.



Fig. 62. N. 4901. Section. 1:50.

The body (child, ætat. 9-12) was on L side, head S, face W.

N. 4942, 4996. 4942 (pl. 34^a) and 4996 had no lining walls, but in other respects were similar to 4906.

N. 4901. In 4901 (pl. 28) the pit was unfilled. It was covered with a roughly-arched superstructure of mixed brick and stone. Two rough pots of the usual shape were buried under the superstructure on the west side. Traces of a wooden coffin remained, and there were a few scraps of cloth on the bones. The body (adult, male) was on L side, head S, face W.

N. 4701. 4701 had no lining walls. The pit was filled to II dynasty level, and was then covered with a low superstructure of mixed brick and stone, bound with mud.

The body (adult, male) was on left side, head S, face W.

6. Group A2.

N. 4900. 4900 (pl. 26) had no lining walls. The actual burial was covered with sand, and above this the pit was filled with small stones right up to the top of the superstructure walls. On

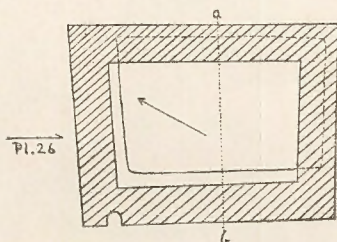


Fig. 63. N. 4900. Ground-plan. 1:50.

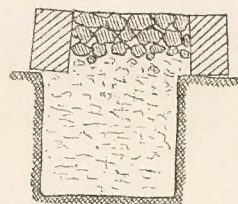


Fig. 64. Section a...b. 1:50.

two sides the superstructure walls overlapped the pit. At the north end of the west superstructure wall there was a small niche, which seems to have been scooped out after the wall was finished. In this and the following seven graves the side walls of the superstructure were built with an inward lean.¹

With the burial there were two alabasters (pl. 45^c 12, 18), and some pieces of shell bracelets (pl. 47^b).

¹ The end walls were as a rule straight, but in one or two cases they also had a slight lean inwards.

The body (adult, female) was on L side, head S, face W.

4337 was lined with flat stones. The pit was not filled, but was covered with a rough arch of mixed brick and stone. With the burial there were two rough pots, and above the grave there were two more (pl. 51^a).

The body (adult, male) was on L side, head S, face W.

5303 was lined with flat stones and had the usual stone filling. The burial was plundered. *N. 5303.*

5301 had no lining walls. The burial had been plundered, so that there was no evidence as to filling. One niche—the southern—was preserved in the superstructure; it was covered with the usual limestone flake lintel, but for some reason the niching was continued above to the top of the wall (pl. 8^d). The burial was plundered.

5114, 5109, 5108 and 5106 were all plundered graves. In none of them was there any trace of a lining wall, nor could the nature of the filling be ascertained. *N. 5114, 5109, 5108 and 5106.*

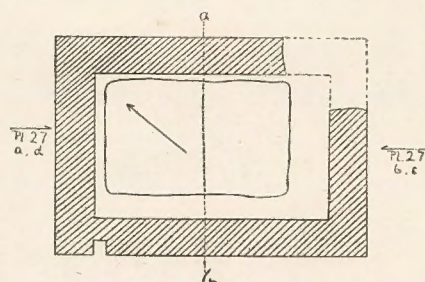


Fig. 65. N. 4702. Ground-plan. 1:50.

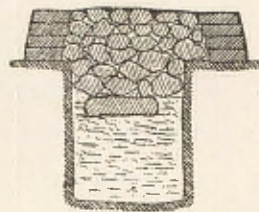


Fig. 66. Section a...b. 1:50.

4702 (pl. 27) had no lining. The actual burial was covered with sand. Above this there was a single large slab of stone, which ran north and south and covered almost the whole area of the pit. Above this again there was a filling of rough stones, which was carried right up to the top of the superstructure walls. The side walls of the superstructure were built with a slight inward overlapping of the courses of bricks. In the filling there was a broken alabaster dish (pl. 45^c 11).

The body (sex ?, ætat. circ. 18) was on L side, head S, face W.

5105 had no lining walls. The filling had been removed. Like the last grave the bricks of the side walls were built with overlapping courses. With the burial there were two rough pots (pl. 53^a). The body (adult, male) was on L side, head S, face W.

4136 (pl. 23) belongs either to this group or to the next. The pit was lined with brick on the north side only, but this wall may have been built to support the pottery rather than to act as a lining. There was the usual covering of rough stones, and above these the grave was filled with sand and stones to the top of the superstructure walls. The superstructure walls were built with a slight inward lean. At the north end there seemed to be traces of a rough arching over the superstructure, but it is possible that this was mere fallen brick.

Under the covering stones and resting on the brick lining wall, there were ten rough pots (pl. 54^a).

The body (adult, sex?) was on L side, head S, face W.

7. Group A3.

N. 5104. 5104 (pl. 29) had no lining walls. The pit was filled with sand, and covered with large rough stones coated with mud. Above this the grave was filled with sand and stones to the top of the superstructure walls, and covered with a rough arching of stones and mud. In this grave the

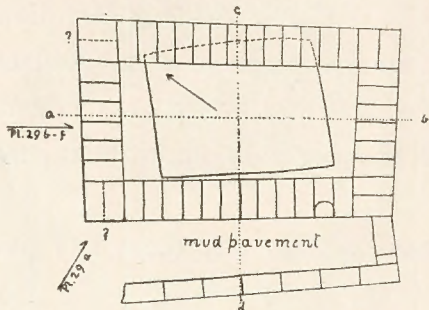


Fig. 67. N. 5104. Ground-plan. 1:50.

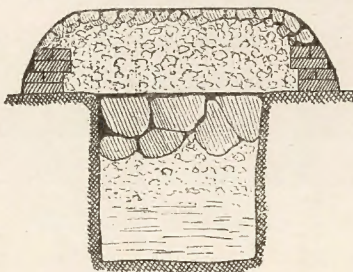


Fig. 68. Section a...b. 1:50.

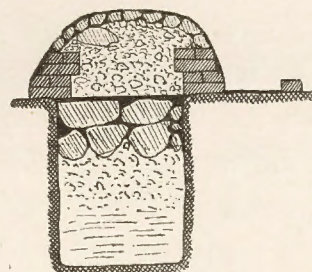


Fig. 69. Section c...d. 1:50.

overlapping of the bricks noticed in 4702 and 5105 has reached a further stage. In 4702 and 5105 there was a slight overlap on every course. Here there was a heavy overlap on every other course.¹ The superstructure had apparently only one niche, at the south end. This had not been allowed for in building, but was scooped out afterwards. In front of the west face there was a small enclosure wall and platform of mud.

With the burial there was a small alabaster (pl. 46^f), and in the filling a small pot (pl. 49^b). The body (adult, sex?) was on L side, head S, face W.

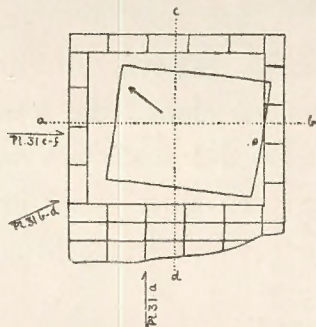


Fig. 70. N. 5147. Ground-plan. 1:50.

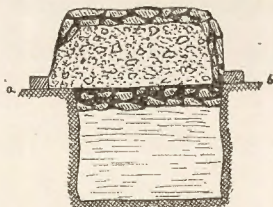


Fig. 71. Section a...b. 1:50.

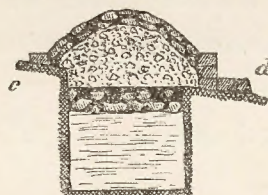


Fig. 72. Section c...d. 1:50.



Fig. 73. 1:50.

N. 5147. 5147 (pl. 31) had no lining walls, nor was the pit filled. At the level of the bottom of the superstructure walls the pit had a *flat* covering of stones and mud, which must originally have been supported by the wooden coffin, of which traces were found. Above this there was a sand and stone filling, on which a rough arch of stones and mud was constructed. The walls were built straight. To obviate the slope of the ground on which the grave was situated, the eastern wall consisted of only one course of bricks, while the western side had four. Before the west face there were remains of a brick platform. The walls of the superstructure consisted of only half brick thickness: Fig. 73 shews the method of binding the bricks.

In the upper filling there were two pieces of flint from a sickle, a flint flake, and a piece of an ivory bracelet. With the burial there was a third piece of the same sickle (pl. 47^c).

¹ See page 11 below, where the method of partial filling is described.

The body (adult, female) was on L side, head S, face W.

There were traces of a wooden coffin.

4944 (pl. 30) was a plundered grave, but seems to have been almost exactly similar in construction to 5147; with the exception that the flat and arched coverings were of brick instead of stone.

The body (adult, female) was on R side, head N, face W. Scraps of wood by the body showed that there had probably been a coffin.

IV. THE BURIALS.

OWING to the low-lying position of the cemetery, and its proximity to inundated ground, the burials were, with few exceptions, in extremely bad condition. Very few of the bones were strong enough to be taken up whole, and in many cases the bodies had been reduced almost to powder. Still, by careful clearing, it was always possible to determine the direction in which the body had been laid.

Out of 80 burials noted, the respective positions were as follows:—

71	were on left side, head S, facing W
3	„ „ right „ „ „ „ E
4	„ „ „ „ „ N „ W
2	„ „ left „ „ „ „ E

*Position of
burial.*

Thus the overwhelming majority of these burials were on their left sides and faced west, conforming to a rule which was practically universal, as far as predynastic and proto-dynastic graves were concerned, throughout the whole of the Naga-el-Dêr site, see Vol. II p. 87-90. Let us see how this compares with the burial-position from other recorded sites.

WEST BANK OF THE RIVER.

<i>Hierakonpolis</i> ¹	predynastic	L side, head S, facing W
<i>Naqada</i> ²	„	L „ „ S, „ W
<i>Dêr el Ballas</i>	„	L „ „ S, „ W
<i>Sheikh Ali</i> ³	„	L „ „ S, „ W
<i>El Amrah</i> ⁴	„	R „ „ S, „ E
—	proto-dynastic	L „ „ S, „ W
<i>Abydos</i> ⁵	„	L „ „ S, „ W
<i>Mahasna</i> ⁶	predynastic	L „ „ S, „ W
<i>Reqaqnah</i> ⁷	IV dyn.	L „ „ N, „ E

*Comparison
with position
in other sites.*

¹ QUIBELL and GREEN, *Hierakonpolis* II, page 26.

² PETRIE, *Diospolis Parva*, page 34.

³ PETRIE, *Abydos I*, page 15.

⁴ GARSTANG, *Third Egyptian Dynasty*, page 49. Most of the burials here described as III dyn. are really IV, see Vol. II, page 137.

² PETRIE and QUIBELL, *Naqada and Ballas*, page 30.

⁴ RANDALL-MACIVER, *El Amrah*, page 14.

⁶ GARSTANG, *Mahasna*, page 5.

<i>Deshasheh</i> ¹	V dyn.	L side, head N, facing E
<i>Medum</i> ²	IV dyn.	L „ „ N, „ E
<i>Gizeh</i>	IV—VI dyn.	L „ „ N, „ E

EAST BANK OF RIVER.

<i>El Kab</i> ³	proto-dynastic	L side, head S, face W
—	Late III—IV dyn.	L „ „ N, „ E
<i>Naqa-el-Dêr</i>	predynastic	L „ „ S, „ W
—	proto-dynastic	L „ „ S, „ W
—	IV—V	L „ „ N, „ E
<i>El Ahaiwa</i>	predynastic	L „ „ S, „ W

An examination of the above data gives us two very definite results:—

- a) From the earliest predynastic time to the IV dyn. the bodies were laid on their left sides, with their heads to the S—i. e. faced W.⁴
- b) From the IV dyn. onwards, up to the gradual adoption in the V—VI dyn. of the full length position, the bodies were still laid on their left sides, but the direction was exactly reversed, the head being N, face E.

These peculiarities of position were strikingly constant, occurring with equal regularity in all parts of the country, and on both sides of the river. It is clear, therefore, that the burial position had to the early Egyptian a distinct ritualistic significance. Just what that significance was we do not propose to discuss here, as it affords a dangerously fascinating field for theorizing, which the present state of our knowledge hardly justifies us in entering upon. We wish, however, before passing on, to lay special emphasis on one fact, namely, that, aside from the contraction, *the essential point about the early burial position, more essential even than the orientation, was that the body should be laid on its left side.*

*Contraction
of burial.*

The burials were all sharply contracted, much more sharply as a rule than the ordinary predynastic burial (see page 33).

Figures 74 and 75 shew the different varieties of position. For the sake of clearness the positions of legs and arms are given separately (see Figures page 33).⁵

The normal position for this cemetery was 1 in each case. The other positions given were variants. In the majority of cases, therefore, the knees came right up to the chin, and both hands were placed before the face. The slight variations of position, both as regards legs and arms, are apparent in the diagrams, and need no comment. No. 10 in the first series only occurred once, and is most unusual. In three cases, all women, one or both hands were over the *pudenda*. The head usually faced directly west, but in a few cases it was turned over so that the forehead, and not the chin, rested on the knees, while occasionally it was turned to face upwards (first series 8). Sometimes we find the body only partially turned

¹ PETRIE, *Deshasheh*, page 18.

² PETRIE, *Medum*, page 21.

³ QUIBELL, *El Kab*, page 13.

⁴ The single exception was at El Amrah. Here also burial on the right side was not universal, a few being found in the usual position.

⁵ The numbers in each series refer only to that series, and have no relation to the numbers in the other series.

on to its side: in some cases it was almost or quite over on the back (first series 9), and in two cases the body was laid directly on its stomach (first series 11, second series 12).¹

Various theories have been put forward as to the meaning of the contracted position, but these hardly concern us here. What does perhaps concern us more nearly, is to try and find *Degree of contraction in proto-dynastic greater than in predynastic.*

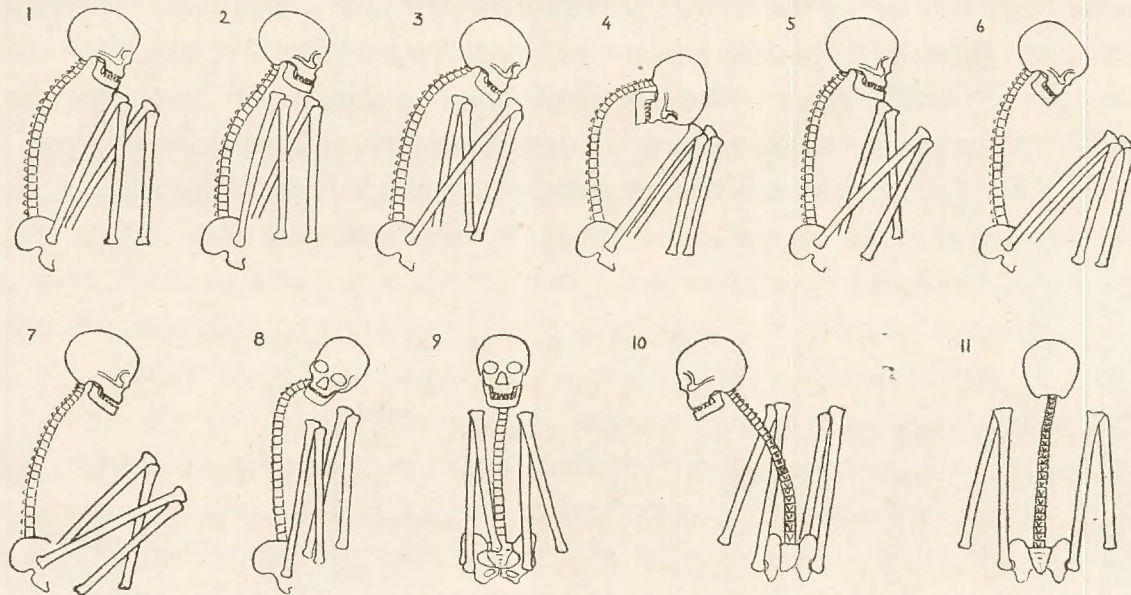


Fig. 74. Position of legs.

a reason why the degree of contraction in the third dynasty is greater than in the earlier graves, when just the reverse was to be expected. It was clearly not a question of the space available in the grave, as in many cases the body was placed in the middle of the pit with

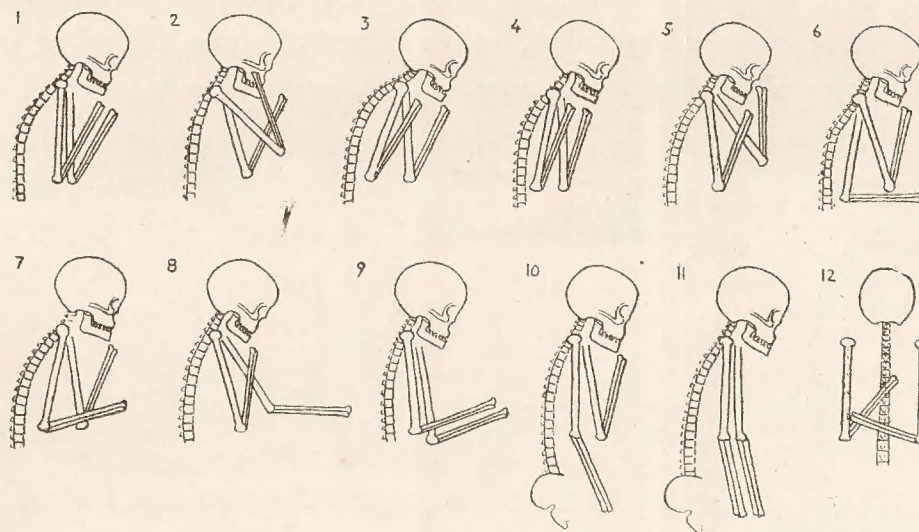


Fig. 75. Position of arms.

a large vacant space all round it (see pl. 11^e, 26^e, 35^e). If however we admit that coffins were generally used in the third dynasty, we arrive at a possible explanation.

In predynastic tombs we know that the bodies were laid in the grave without coffins, *Possible explanation.* and there was therefore no need for a very sharp contraction. When coffins were introduced

¹ A certain number of these variations are undoubtedly due to natural decay and disturbance. [REISNER.]

we can easily see that it would become imperative to make some change in the position. A coffin constructed to hold an ordinary predynastic burial would have had to be almost square in shape, and would have been very clumsy and difficult to handle. By increasing the degree of contraction, however, the body could be fitted into a box of a very practical shape. It is possible then, and it is merely as a possibility that we advance the theory, that the increase of contraction in the burial was caused by the introduction of the coffin. Looking at the diagrams generally, we see that the position of the bones is just what we should expect to find, if the body had been fitted, in some cases not without difficulty, into a narrow oblong box. The abnormalities of position that we occasionally meet, such as 9 and 11 in the first series, and 12 in the second, seem to fit in very well with this explanation. Nos. 6 and 7 in the first series, moreover, the two examples which required the most room, were in oval pottery coffins. Naturally the body must have been squeezed into its coffin before it had had time to stiffen: nor in a hot climate is that any matter for surprise. The Egyptian of the present day prepares his dead for burial almost immediately after the death.

There was no evidence of cut up or secondary burials, nor was there dislocation of the joints or any other sign of violence having been used to force the bodies into their burial positions.

*Sex of
burials.*

The burials were in many cases too far gone for the sex to be determined. Those in better condition were examined by Dr ELLIOTT-SMITH before they were taken up; with the result that 35 were found to belong to full grown men, 23 to full grown women, while 11 were still immature.

Broken bones.

Broken bones were less common than is usual in Egyptian cemeteries. The worst case was that of an old woman (5306) who had broken ulna, radius and clavicle on the left side. In several cases the bones were considerably eaten away by insects.

*Wrapping
and coffins.*

As a rule all trace of cloth or other wrappings had entirely disappeared. Still scraps of decomposed cloth were occasionally found, and it is probable that, following the usual custom of the next period, the bodies had been covered with loose shawls.

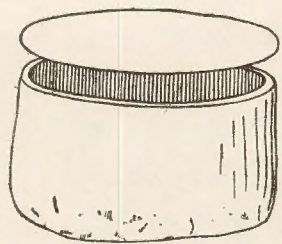


Fig. 76. N. 4718. 1:15.

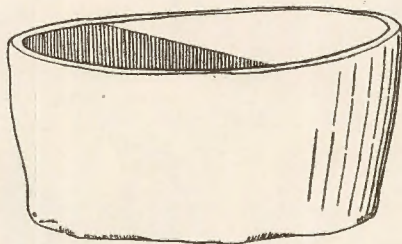


Fig. 77. N. 5302. 1:15.

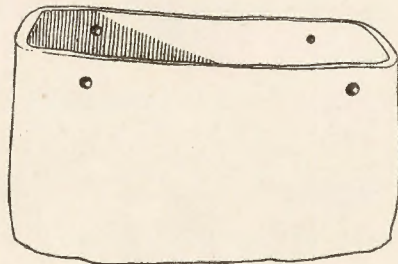


Fig. 78. N. 4137. 1:15.

Pottery coffins (see pl. 54-5) were found in 22 cases, mostly the poorer type of graves. They were oval or oblong in shape, and occur either with or without lids, two or more stone slabs in the latter case taking the place of the lid. One example (fig. 78) has two round holes near the top on each side, and one on each end. These were probably intended for use in fastening a lid, as in the case of small vases with similar holes (see page 41). A fragment of a lid from grave 5101 shewed a groove for lifting (fig. 79), while another coffin (pl. 54^b) had a number of half-perforated holes in the bottom and in the lid, of which the

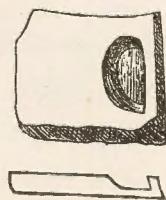


Fig. 79. N. 5101.

purpose is unknown. Pottery coffins were introduced in the first dynasty, and were fairly common throughout the whole of the proto-dynastic period. The earliest examples were rectangular, and were made of unbaked clay. Traces of wooden coffins were found in 5 graves, but in every case they were too much decayed to admit of measurements or notes on construction. The greater number of the burials showed no trace of any kind of coffin. In all probability there had been wooden coffins, which had entirely disappeared.

There were two burials, both children, in large pots (not *majurs*). In the one case (pl. 32,^{a-c}) the pot was standing upright: in the other (pl. 32,^{d,f}) it was lying on its side.¹ The *majur* burial proper does not occur in this cemetery, which is somewhat surprising seeing that we find it both in late predynastic and in IV dyn.

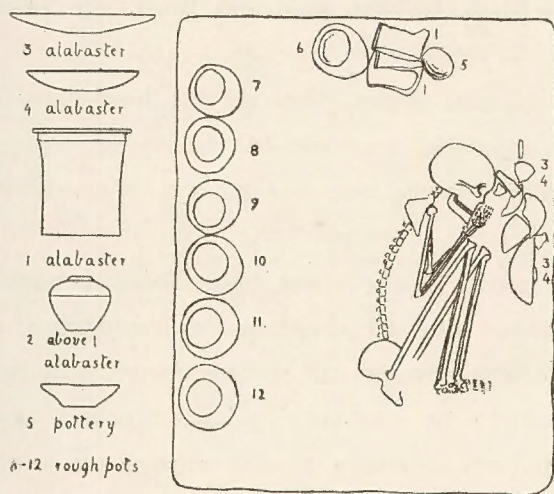


Fig. 80. N. 4771. 1:25.

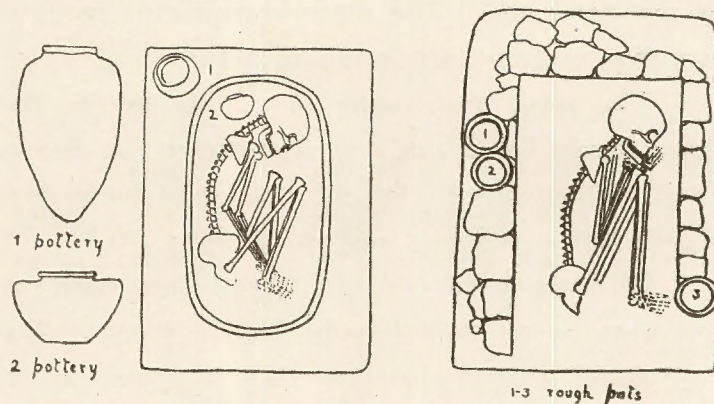


Fig. 81. N. 4175. 1:25.

Fig. 82. N. 4992. 1:25.

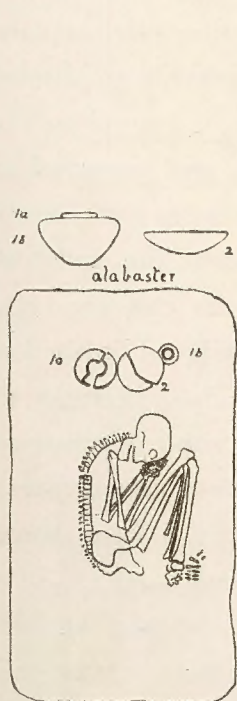


Fig. 83. N. 4900. 1:25.

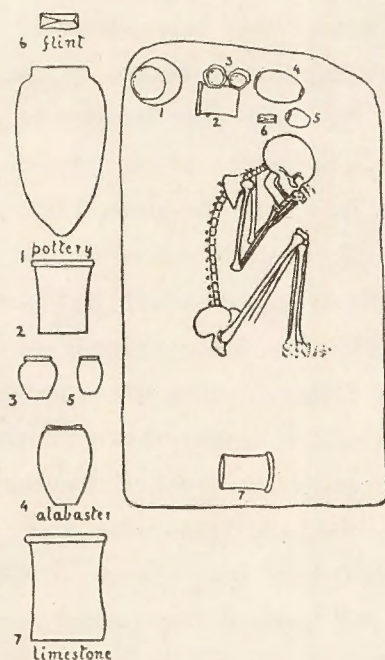


Fig. 84. N. 4139. 1:25.

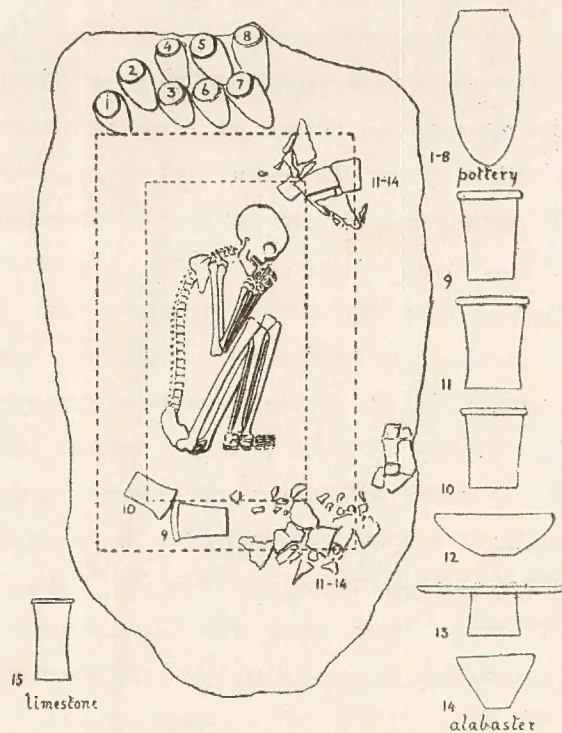


Fig. 85. N. 5103. 1:25.

¹ Similar cases of the burial of children in large pots were found by this Expedition at El Ahaiwah, in graves of the New Empire.

*Position
of pottery
in the grave.*

The ordinary rough pottery was found in any of four different positions:—

1. On the floor of the pit.

a) Inside the lining walls, see pl. 16^c, 36^e and fig. 80. A few of the smaller finer pots were inside the coffin itself, see pl. 22^f, 37^f and fig. 81.

b) Outside the lining walls, see pl. 19^c, 24^e, and fig. 85.

2. Built in with the stone lining walls, see pl. 18^c and fig. 82.

3. Built in with, or resting on, the stones which covered the pit, see pl. 13, 15, 16^{e,f}, 17.

4. On the surface, in front of the west face of the superstructure, see pl. 9^{e,f}.

In the first three cases the pottery was obviously deposited at the time of the burial, while 4 represents the subsequent offerings which were brought to the grave by the relatives of the deceased.¹ The pottery contained in every case dark brown scentless mud, the result probably of later infiltration of water.

*Position of
stone vases
in the grave.*

The stone vases were, as a rule, on the floor of the pit, either close to the body (sometimes inside the coffin), or underneath the lining wall; though occasionally they were placed in the filling above. In one case they were deposited in a niche cut out of a corner of the pit, behind the lining wall (pl. 9^{c,d}).

*Stone vases
intentionally
broken at
the time
of burial.*

With the exception of a few of the coarsest specimens, all of the stone vases were damaged, and some were absolutely broken to pieces. This was not due to accident or plundering, as one would naturally suppose. On the contrary, our evidence forces us to the conclusion that the jars were broken deliberately at the time of the burial. In 4506 (pl. 9^d), 4532 (pl. 10^a), 4148 (pl. 10^b), and 4376 (pl. 10^c), the burials were plundered, and the damage to the stoneware might have been done by the plunderers. In 4139 (pl. 11^e), 4771 (pl. 16^c), 4900 (pl. 26^e), and 4747 (pl. 33^f), the different parts of the broken vases were close together, and the breakage might conceivably be due to accident (figs. 83 and 84). In 5103 (pl. 24), however, neither plundering nor accident can explain away the condition in which the stone vases were found. The grave was absolutely intact, the views on plate 24 shewing the successive stages in the work of removing the filling, and yet the vases and dishes were for the most part broken to pieces, and scattered in different parts of the grave. Further than that, the pieces of the broken vases were completely hidden away under the lining-walls (see fig. 85, in which the dotted lines represent the walls), in such fashion that the walls must have been built directly upon them. Nor was this the only instance. A careful search under the lining-walls of graves which had been considered finished—a search which in some cases necessitated the entire demolishment of the wall—, brought to light several objects, where presence had been hitherto quite unsuspected. A good instance of this is shown in plate 10^f. Here, completely hidden under the wall, there was a copper ewer (pl. 47^a), covered, presumably to protect it from being crushed by the wall, by a large piece of an alabaster table of offerings. The other pieces of the table were scattered near.

It is clear then that our stone vessels must have been deliberately broken at the time of the interment.² The custom may of course have had some definite symbolical

¹ This custom of bringing offerings of food to the grave—the *rahma* as it is called—still holds in upper Egypt at the present day. It takes place 14 days after the funeral.

² De Morgan notes the same peculiarity with regard to the Menes tomb at Naqada (*Recherche sur les origines de l'Égypte*, page 150), and in the Naqa-el-Dér site there were many other instances in cemetery 500.

meaning.¹ As a general rule, however, the simpler a theory is the more worthy it is of credence, and we prefer the severely practical view that the vases were broken in order to prevent their being stolen by plunderers and reused.

The smaller objects, such as copper model-tools and flint flakes, were usually on the floor of the grave near the body; though in one case, no. 5147, there were two pieces of a sickle flint in the upper filling.

Position of smaller objects.

V. OBJECTS FOUND.

1. Pottery vessels. (See plates 49-54.)

THE pottery of this period is singularly dull and uninteresting. The introduction of stone vases—due in part to the discovery of the working powers of metal—had for the time being practically killed the potter's art.² All the artistic and inventive genius that was formerly expended on the pottery was now diverted into stone; and the potter, sunk from the level of an artist to that of a mere manufacturer, seems to have confined his attention to the reproduction of a few purely utilitarian types of pottery. Even rich III dyn. tombs, such as were found by Mr GARSTANG at Bêt Hallaf, contained remarkably few shapes of pottery,³ and consequently in a poor cemetery, such as this one, the results were likely to be, and were, meagre in the extreme. Out of a total of 170 pots found in the cemetery, more than 150 belong to one type, a rough hand-made pot with pointed or round bottom, while 6 of the remainder were mere rough saucers.

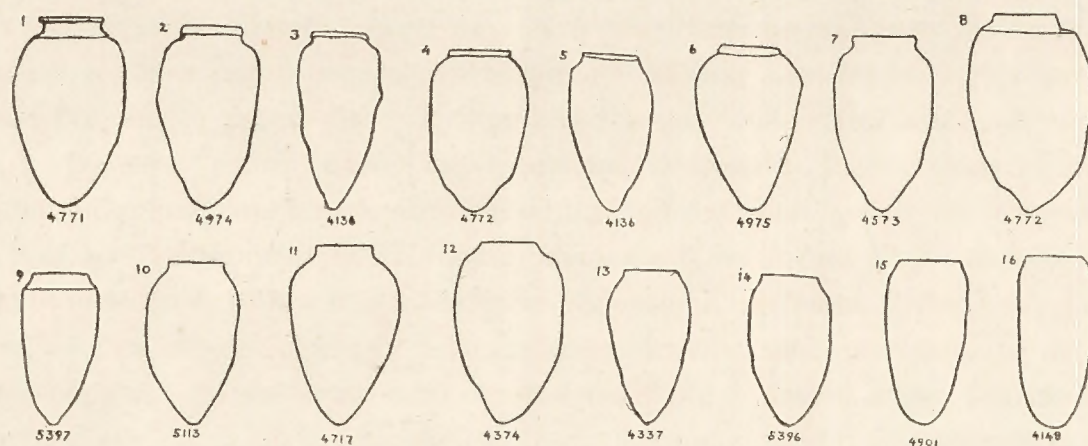


Fig. 86. 1:12.

¹ See De Morgan (Op. Cit. page 152) — "L'incendie du tombeau de Négadah et de ceux d'Abydos a, par le fait, rendu inutiles les offrandes que renfermaient les sépultures. Devons-nous y voir le désir de détruire en entier tous les biens du mort, ou la pensée plus élevée de rendre immatérielles pour la vie future les richesses de ce monde en même temps que le corps?" The firing of the tombs, at Abydos at any rate, has been proved to have been long subsequent to the burial (Petrie, Royal Tombs I, page 7), and has therefore no connection with this custom.

² Stone vases were not unknown, even in the earliest predynastic period, but they were rare, and of comparatively poor workmanship. Copper has also been found in predynastic graves, but apparently its utility for stone-cutting purposes was not discovered until towards the end of the predynastic period. See Vol. II, chapter XI.

³ GARSTANG, Mahasna, pl. xxx—xxxI.

Fig. 86.

The pre-dominant type.

The type of pot which is so predominant in this cemetery is almost equally persistent in all cemeteries of the proto-dynastic period. It has a long range, in the course of which its shape undergoes a somewhat remarkable transformation. The different varieties of the type found in this cemetery are shown in fig. 86. At first sight we seem to have in this group a mixture of three or four quite distinct types, but a close examination of the mass of pots from which these specimens were selected shews that they really all belong to one class. The pot is very roughly made, with a coarse yellow-brown surface. Being hand-made there are naturally no two which are exactly alike, and an attempt to reproduce *all* of the shapes would necessitate the drawing of practically the entire mass of specimens found. An attempt was made at first to divide the series into two groups—those with rims and those without—, but even this was found to be impracticable, the top of the pot being so indefinite in some

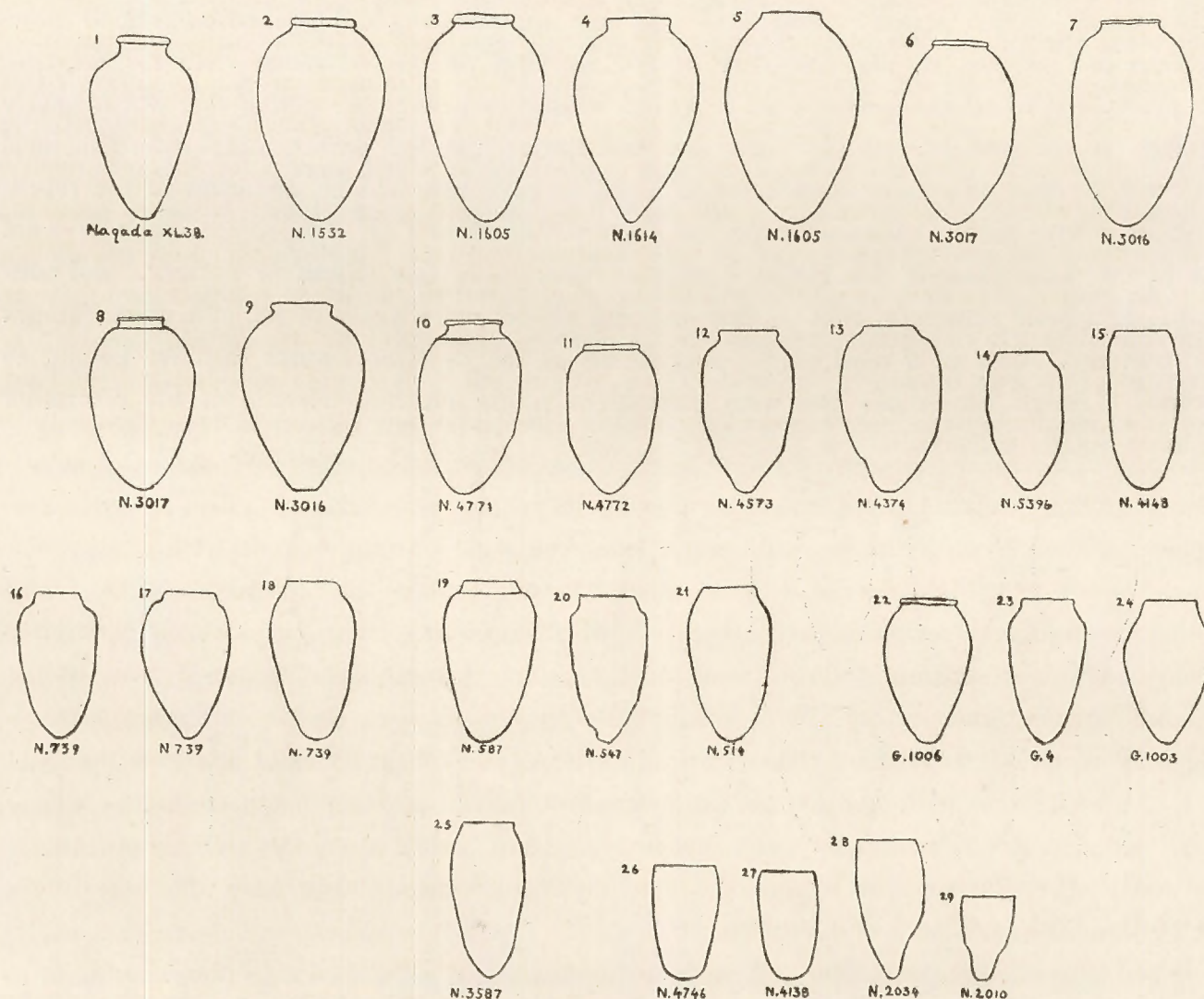


Fig. 87. 1:12.

cases as to make it impossible to say whether a rim was intended or not. In fig. 87 we have tabulated the varieties of this pot found in the various early cemeteries in the Naga-el-Dêr site, with a view to illustrating its range and development. No. 1 shows the prototype, found

in the later predynastic period. 2, 3, 4 and 5 come from cemetery 1500 and belong to the I or early part of the II dyn. 6, 7, 8 and 9, from cemetery 3000, are II dyn. 10-15 are types taken from our present cemetery, and date from the III dynasty. 16-18 and 19-21 are from cemetery 500, and belong respectively to the IV and V dynasties. 25 comes from a rock-cut tomb of about the VI dyn., while 26-29 are types which are very common in the VI-IX dyn. period.

Thus we start out, shortly before the I dyn., with a gracefully proportioned pot, with high shoulders and a pronounced neck. Its downward course is very rapid. The neck practically disappears. The side of the pot is gradually rounded, till it measures its greatest circumference in the middle, instead of, as before, at the shoulder. In its later stages the curve is lessened; the pot becomes narrower, and finishes its career a rough shapeless cup. In many cases the pots of this class had been covered with cone-shaped mud sealings (see pl. 50^a). As a rule the jars were filled with mud, but this may have been due to later infiltration of water. It seems puzzling at first why these pots, in common with so many of the other early types, were made with pointed bottoms. Why make a pointed jar that will not stand by itself, when it is just as easy—indeed easier—to make a flat-bottomed jar that will. It must be remembered, however, that the majority of the early pots were porous, and that it was therefore not desirable for jars containing liquid to come in contact with the ground. This does not necessarily mean that all round-bottomed jars were intended for liquid. Probably the earliest round-bottomed jars were made for that purpose, the later types in some cases copying the shape, even when the reason for the shape was non-existent.

Nos. 22-24 in our figure were found in mastabas of the V dyn. at Gizeh, and are inserted for the sake of comparison. It is interesting to note how constant the shape of any given pot is in contemporary cemeteries in different parts of the country. In our present example we have pots of practically identical shape turning up in cemeteries of the same date, distant some 300 miles apart: and, so far as our experience goes, the same rule holds good with all Egyptian pottery. Any type which can be definitely dated in one part of the country will be found to belong to the same period in any other part of the country where it occurs. Difference of locality may, and apparently does, influence the burial customs to a certain extent, but it has no influence on the pottery. This seems to suggest that, as in the present time, pottery-making was confined to two or three centres. One of the most familiar sights on the Nile today is the boat laden with *ballalis*, the large water jars which are manufactured in the village of Ballas, and despatched thence all over the country from Nubia to Alexandria. There are at present only three districts in Egypt in which pottery-making is taken seriously, viz. Esneh, Kenh (Ballas, Zoweyda etc.) and Assiout.

Fig. 88 shows three jars (pl. 52^b, 49^d, 49^e) which are somewhat similar to the last class, but of better quality. The potter was probably working from the same model, but desired to make a better pot, as the three examples are more carefully worked, and have a smooth surface.

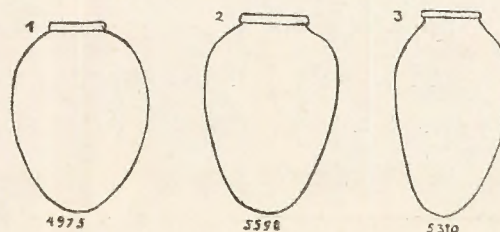


Fig. 88. 1 : 22.

*Dishes and
smaller vases.*

Fig. 89.

- 1 is a smaller edition of our main type (pl. 53^a).
- 2 is a rough-faced pot of similar ware (pl. 52^b). We have met with no other example of exactly the same shape, but the type seems to be that of the predynastic L 53 group (El Amrah XIII, 53^{g, h}).
- 3, 5 and 6 are rough saucers.
- 4 belongs to a class of dish which is very common in proto-dynastic cemeteries, and occurs certainly as early as the middle of the I dyn. The original surface of the dish is soft, and light brown in colour. The outside of the dish is as a rule left rough, but the inside is covered with a yellowish-pink slip, which is afterwards roughly pebble-burnished in wide streaks, which run straight across from one side of the dish to the other. In 4974 (pl. 53^a) we have a case where the upper part of the outside of the dish was burnished like the inside. It is curious that in no grave in the cemetery was there a complete dish of this type. Various odd pieces were found scattered in the filling of the graves, but in only one case were two pieces found which fitted together. Many of the pieces had been used as scrapers by plunderers.

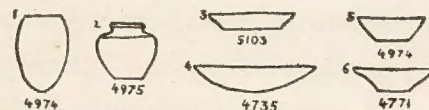


Fig. 89. 1:12.

Fig. 90. Of this type one example was found, but it has unfortunately been omitted from the plates. It has a dull-red surface, somewhat similar to the predynastic 'plum' pot.

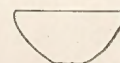


Fig. 90. 1:12.

*Vases of
finer quality.*

Fig. 91 (see also pl. 49^b) represents a group of small pots of much finer quality, some of which shew interesting survivals of predynastic peculiarities.

- 1 is a burnished pot of the light salmon-pink colour which is so common in the later predynastic period. The accentuated shoulder ridge is another characteristic of the same period. In Royal Tombs II, XLIX B15, we get a similar outline in stone, through the vase was oval in form.
- 2 has a smooth hard white surface, similar to that of the cylinder jars, and clearly an imitation of stone. It has an additional peculiarity in the shape of a band of black paint round the shoulder.
- 3 is made of a dull-red ware. On the shoulder there are two splashes of red paint, which remind one at once of the late predynastic decorated types (see Diospolis Parva, XV 25^a and ^b).
- 4 has a very roughly burnished surface, and a slight blackening round the upper part. Black-topped pottery as a class drops out before the I dyn., though an occasional specimen is found in the I and II dynasties.¹ This is the latest example that has yet been found, and is only just recognizable as belonging to the class.
- 5 has a smooth dull-red surface. Round the shoulder there seemed to be traces of a band of red paint.

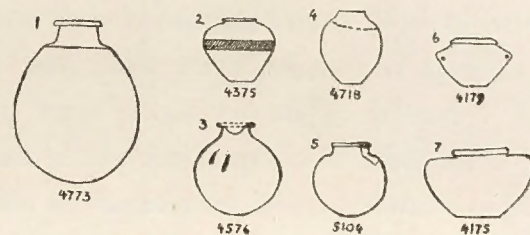


Fig. 91. 1:12.

¹ PETRIE, Abydos I, VI 9 and 10; RANDALL-MACIVER, El Amrah, XIV B2 b; DE MORGAN, Recherches, fig. 566.

6 had originally a dull-white surface. This was covered all over with a thin coat of green glaze, of which traces only now remain. The shape is otherwise unknown in pottery, and is clearly imitated from stone. For the type in stone see Vol. II, pl. 72^b; El Amrah xvi 2; El Kab x 14; and the 51-57 class of hanging vases in Naqada, pl. ix.

7 is smooth-faced, of a dull-brown ware, similar in texture to that of the three jars in fig. 92. Like the preceding example, the shape was copied from a well-known stone type (cp. pl. 45^c 18).

Fig. 92 (see also pl. 55^e, f, g).

Two of the three large pots (1 and 3) shown in fig. 92 were used as burial receptacles for children. The third was broken, but had probably been put to the same use. 1 and 3 are of the ordinary light-brown ware, but

2 has a light-red slip-facing, the surface of which was roughly and superficially pebble-burnished. This latter jar has an interior rim round the top to support a lid, and, as usual in such cases, three small holes just below the rim for the cords with which the lid was fastened on.¹ The bottom of the jar was blackened as though it had been put over a fire at some time. These three pots were probably not originally intended for coffins. They may have been household pots, which were used to save the expense of real coffins.

The real pottery coffins have been already described in Chapter IV (page 34).

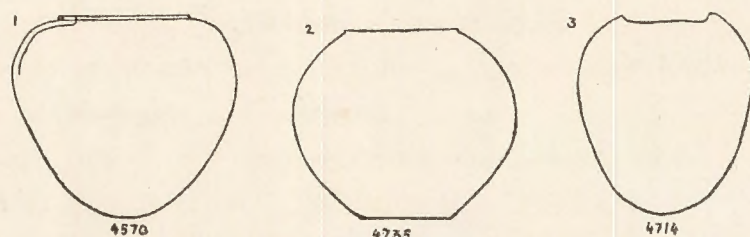


Fig. 92. 1 : 15.

*Pots used as
coffins.*

2. Stone vessels. (See plates 45 and 46.)

Fig. 93.

The vases in fig. 93 come from a tomb (3551) which is definitely earlier than any of the others, and are therefore not classed in with the main group. The shapes of the vases can all be paralleled in the II dyn. graves of cemetery 3000 (Vol. II pl. 70-72). They are all fully discussed in Volume II, and therefore need no notice here, except in so far as they affect our III dyn. shapes.

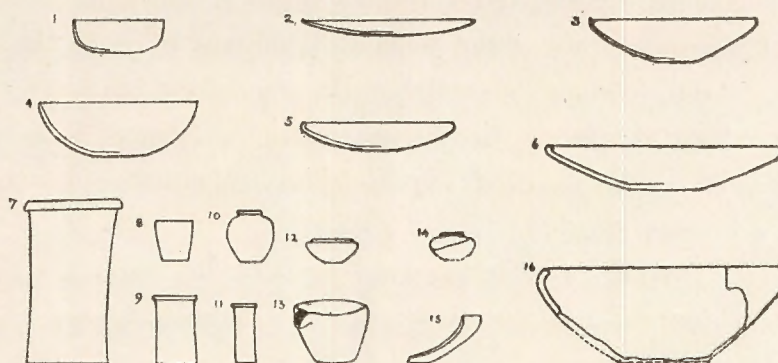


Fig. 93. 1 : 12.

Our main group belongs almost entirely to the III dyn., and forms an interesting supplement to the mass of material belonging to the first two dynasties, published in Volume II.

Fig. 94 shows the different types of cylinder jars found in the cemetery. With the *Cylinder jars*, exception of 5 and 11 (limestone), all are of alabaster. As may be seen from the photographs (pl. 45 and 46), the jars belong to two distinct classes, those on the lower line of our figure

¹ Cp. PETRIE, *Diospolis Parva*, XIV 65-70, XV 18c; RANDALL-MACIVER, *El Amrah*, LIV 22.

being mere coarse substitutes for the finely-finished types on the upper line. No. 11 was an absolute 'dummy', the boring being merely indicated by a slight depression at the top.

The cylindrical stone jar has perhaps a longer history than any other type, either of stone or pottery. Considering the length of its range the shape undergoes remarkably little change, the varieties of type, in the first three dynasties in particular, being very difficult to differentiate between. There are, however, three minor points of technique which are of direct value as dating evidence.

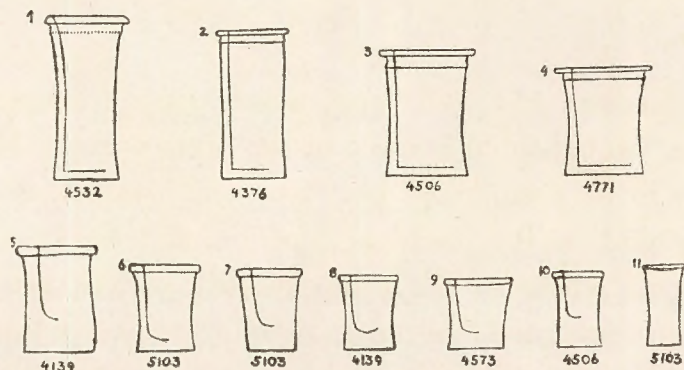


Fig. 94. 1:12.



Fig. 95. 1:12.

a. *Curvature of side.* In the latter half of the predynastic period, in which the shape first occurs, the side of the vase has a double curve (fig. 95 1). In early I dyn. graves the sides are as a rule practically straight (2), though the regular concave curve of (3) is occasionally found. In the later proto-dynastic graves straight-sided jars are almost unknown, the usual shape being a more or less exaggerated form of 3. After the III dyn. the curve, instead of being evenly distributed over the whole side, takes a sharp turn out towards the bottom, and thus forms a rudimentary foot, developing into the pronounced foot of the well known VI dyn. type (5). Side by side with this last type, however, we find the old shape continuing right down to the XII dyn. (6).

b. *The rim.* In all the early examples the rim slopes outwards (fig. 96, 1). At about the III dyn. the rounded type (2) comes in, while later the inward slope (3) is quite common.

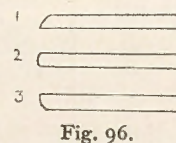


Fig. 96.

c. *Ridge round shoulder.* Up to the present we have no dated example of a predynastic cylinder vase with shoulder-ridge. In proto-dynastic times ridges are universal, except of course in the case of the rough 'dummy' jars. The earliest type seems to have been 1 in fig. 97, a copy of the shoulder-ridges of the predynastic 'wavy-handled' jar. 2 seems to be an intermediate type between this and 3, which is a conventional representation of cord. In 4 the cord pattern is merely indicated by a series of nicks. Then these also disappear, and we get a plain unornamented ridge, while finally, in the IV dyn. (?), the ridge itself was abandoned.

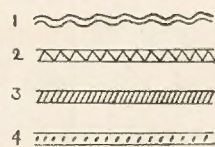


Fig. 97.

In each of these three points of difference there is a considerable overlapping of the various types, and it is impossible to fix with any degree of exactitude where one type ends

and another begins. It seems certain, however, from a comparison of the published examples from other sites with those from our own cemeteries, that the general trend of development was as we have stated it.

Fig. 98.

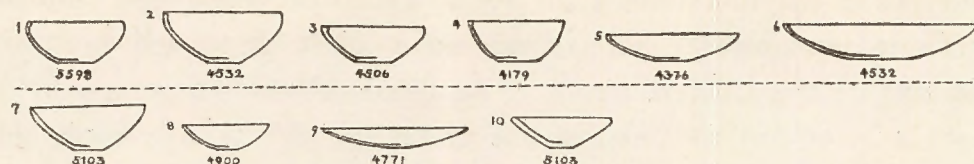


Fig. 98. 1 : 12.

The dishes in fig. 98 are, with the exception of 10, all types which occur frequently in cemetery 3000 (cp. also fig. 93), and indeed throughout the whole of the proto-dynastic period.

10, the only diorite dish found, seems to be a definitely later type (cp. Mahasna, xxxv 10.) Stone dishes do not appear until the very end of the predynastic period, and are then only represented by a single rough type.¹ In the whole of the proto-dynastic period, however, they are extremely common, and occur in a multitude of forms. So numerous indeed are the forms, and so gradually and imperceptably does one type shade off into another, that it is impossible, judging from the shape alone, to date a given dish with any close degree of accuracy. Of much greater value is the evidence given us by the minor details of technique.

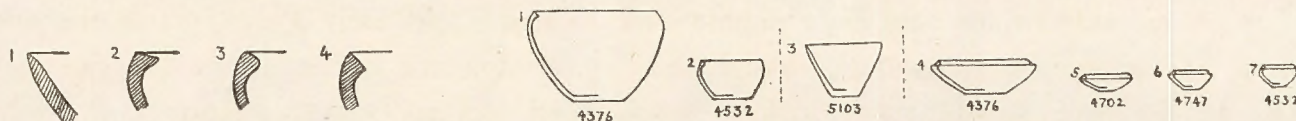


Fig. 99.

Fig. 100. 1 : 12.

There are two broad classes into which the early stone dishes may be divided—

- a. Those with straight rims (fig. 99 1).
- b. Those with a curved inner lip (fig. 99 2).

Straight-rimmed vases are of course the easiest form to make, and it is only natural that the earliest dishes — those in the predynastic graves — should be of this class. The type lasts on, however, side by side with the curved rim, and indeed outlives it. It is from b that we get our dating evidence.² There are three main varieties of the curved rim (fig. 99 2, 3, 4). Of these 2 is the earliest, occurring most commonly in the I dyn., but lasting on through the II into the III. 3 is exceedingly rare in the I dyn. but is common in the II and III. 4 seems to begin at about the end of the II dyn., and is very common in the III.

Fig. 100.

1 is a late type, the first known example occurring in the tomb of Mersekha (R. T. II, L 1, *Bowls*. U 180). Examples were also found:—

- in the tomb of Kha-sekhemui (*Abydos I*, ix, 14-15),
- in a III dyn. tomb at Reqaqnah (*Third Egyptian Dynasty*, xii, 41),
- and in tomb 1515 (II dyn.) of this site (Vol. II, pl. 50).

¹ The fine stone dishes represented in the Naqada plates all come from the later stairway tombs at Ballas.

² See Vol. II page 107 ff., where the subject is fully discussed.

2 is a somewhat similar bowl on a smaller scale. The type also occurs in the tomb of Mersekha (R. T. II, XLVII, U 37).

3 is a common shape throughout the period. It occurs:—

in the tombs of Zet, Den and Mersekha (R. T. II, XLVI, 16—18),

in one of the I dyn. tombs in the Osiris enclosure at Abydos (*Abydos I*, XLIII 9),

in tombs 1513 and 3031 (II dyn.) of this site (Vol. II, pl. 47 and 70),

and in one of the III dyn. tombs at Reqaqnah (*Mahasna*, XIV 21-22).

Here it occurs in one of the later of our graves (pl. 46^b), i. e. towards the end of the III dyn.

4—7. This is essentially a late form. Other dated examples of the III—IV dyn. have been found:—

At Mahasna (*Mahasna*, XXVII 6),

at Reqaqnah (*Third Egyptian Dynasty*, IX 21),

and at El Kab (*El Kab*, x 17, 18, 44).

A still later example (from a V dyn. grave?) was found at Mahasna (*Mahasna*, xxxv 9), cp. also fig. 93 12. Earlier forms of this type occur in tombs 1512 (I dyn.), and 1513 (II dyn.) of this site (Vol. II, p. 107).

An example (from a stairway tomb?) appears in Naqada XI 35.

Fig. 101.

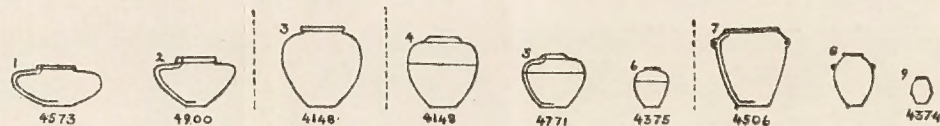


Fig. 101. 1: 12.

Other shapes. 1—2 represent one of the commonest and most characteristic forms of the second half of the proto-dynastic period. The type has been found:—

in the tomb of Kha-sekhemui (*Abydos I*, IX 5, 9, 10),

in graves of the II—III dyn. at El Amrah (*El Amrah*, VII 3 and 5),

in III dyn. graves at Reqaqnah (*Third Egyptian Dynasty* VIII 1),

in III—IV dyn. graves at El Kab (*El Kab*, x 16, 43, IX 22),

at Ballas, in stairway tombs (?) (*Naqada*, XI 31),

and in graves of the II dyn. in cemetery 3000.

A somewhat similar shape occurs amongst the model vases of painted limestone found in Q₂₀, one of the small graves associated with the tomb of Q_a at Abydos, but otherwise the shape is unknown in the I dyn.

2 has a detachable rim, a peculiarity not infrequent in this type of vase, especially in the later specimens. Of the examples mentioned above, those from Abydos, El Amrah and Cemetery 3000 have non-detachable rims. One from Reqaqnah has a detachable rim, while both of the El Kab examples have lost their rims.

An imitation of this shape in pottery has been discussed above (see fig. 91, 7).

3 is a type which was very common in cemetery 3000. The type is also noted in El Amrah (*El Amrah*, XVI 12).

4—6 belong to a curious type, in which the upper and lower halves of the vase were made separately and fitted together. Vases of this sort can have had no practical use. They must have been manufactured solely for burial use, and were made in two pieces in order to avoid the tedious labour of boring out the interior through a very small hole. Similar vases have been found:—

- in graves of the II—III dyn. at El Amrah (*El Amrah*, xvi 2),
- in III—IV dyn. stairway tombs at Ballas (*Naqada*, xv 153),
- in II—III and possibly in I dyn. tombs at El Kab (*El Kab*, x 15, 22),
- cp. also the gold-capped vases in the tomb of Kha-sekhemui (*Abydos I*, ix 6-7), which were similar in shape, but were made in one piece.

The manufacture of a vase in two pieces was not confined to this type. In N. 3150 (II dyn.) a much larger vase was treated in the same way (Vol. II, p. 87), and at Hu two examples were found in XII dyn. graves (*Diospolis parva*, xxix Y 152, W 32).

4—5 were made of alabaster, 6 of pink limestone.

7—9. This handled type of stone vase is curiously persistent, and crops up in the most unexpected places. It is early in origin, and in the middle predynastic period it is perhaps the commonest of the stone types. It was not found in the I dyn. royal tombs, nor, with a single exception of debased form (*Abydos I*, xlv 6), in the I dyn. tombs in the Abydos Osiris enclosure.

Again with a single exception (Vol. II, p. 106) it does not occur in the I—II dyn. cemeteries 1500 and 3000 of this site.

In the later deposit at Hierakonpolis the type was common (*Hierakonpolis I*, xxxiii; *Hierakonpolis II*, xxx).

At Mahasna it occurred, as here, in III dyn. graves (*Mahasna*, xxvii 3; *Third Egyptian Dynasty*, ix 11).

At El Kab it was found in tombs of the III—IV dyn. (*El Kab*, x 29).

At Denderah (*Denderah*, xxi top, centre) a VI dyn. form was found, and at Abydos a similar motive occurred in an XVIII dyn. grave (*El Amrah*, xlvii, D 115).

Of the three specimens found in this cemetery:—

7 (with detachable rim) has no direct prototype, though the form may be derived from *Naqada*, H 45.

8 (a porphyry vase found loose in the sand above the cemetery) is a common predynastic type (see *Naqada*, viii).

9 is a curious type, with tiny dummy handles far down its sides.

Fig. 102.

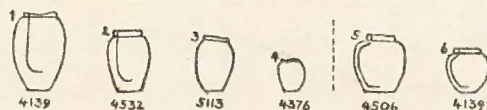


Fig. 102. 1 : 12.

1—4 is essentially a proto-dynastic shape, the vases of type S 17 figured in *Naqada* coming

probably from the stairway tombs at Ballas. The type was very common in late I dyn. and II dyn. graves in cemeteries 1500 and 3000 (Vol. II, p. 105). It has also been found:—
 in III dyn. graves at Mahasna (*Mahasna*, xxvii 9, 10),
 in III—V dyn. graves at El Kab (*El Kab*, x 31).

5 and 6 seem to be later derivatives of the same type (cp. *El Amrah*, vii 3; and fig. 93, 10).
Fig. 103.

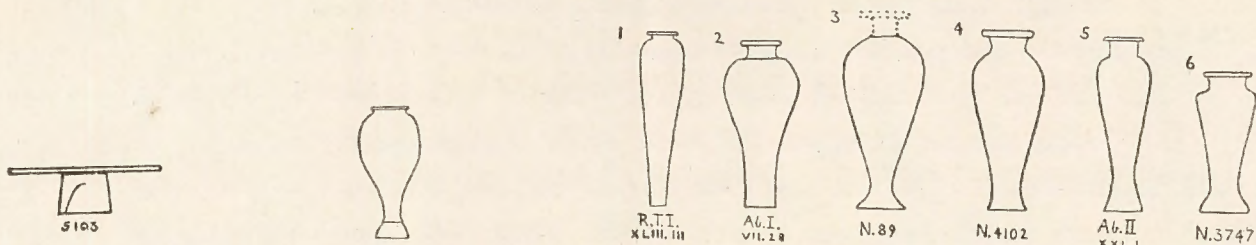


Fig. 103. 1:12.

Fig. 104. N. 4532. 1:12.

Fig. 105.

Two alabaster offering-tables were found, and this fact alone is sufficient to date our cemetery to the very end of the proto-dynastic period. In the I and practically the whole of the II dyn. period the alabaster table is unknown.¹ One of our two examples, from N. 5175 (pl. 46^{f1}) comes from a late II dyn. tomb, and is probably the earliest example yet found.

Similar tables have been found:—

- in tombs of the III dyn. at Mahasna (*Mahasna*, xxix),
- in III—IV dyn. graves at El Kab (*El Kab*, x),
- in III—IV dyn. stairway tombs at Ballas (*Nagada*, xvi).

In both of our examples the base of the table was made from a separate piece of stone. In the other sites it was perhaps more common to find the whole table cut from a single block.

Fig. 104. The *hes* vase in stone is extremely unusual, though in pottery the type is well known. Up to the present only two examples of the former have been found, one in this cemetery and one in cemetery 3000 (vol. II, p. 105).

- 1 in fig. 105 gives us the probable pottery prototype, occurring in the tombs of Zet and Den.
- 2 comes from the tomb of Perabsen.
- 3 is a V—VI dyn. type from this site.
- 4 comes from a tomb of the VI dyn., or slightly later, in cemetery 2000.
- 5 is a VI dyn. (?) example in copper from Abydos.
- 6 is a type which belongs to about the middle of the VI—XI dyn. period.

Before leaving the stone vessels we must refer to two small vases which were found in N. 5399. One was a miniature cylinder jar, and the other, unfortunately incomplete, was a tiny spouted bowl. Both were of limestone (pl. 47^f).

Except where otherwise stated, the stone vases described in this section are all of alabaster. For the method of shaping, boring, polishing etc. see vol. II, page 105.

¹ DE MORGAN'S reconstruction of a table of offerings from a small fragment of alabaster found in the Menes tomb (*Les Origines*, fig. 680) is purely arbitrary. The fragment in question might have belonged to any type of flat dish.

3. Flint flakes, copper model-tools, and other small objects.

Fig. 106 (see also pl. 45^b).

The types of flint flakes found in this cemetery correspond exactly to the types found in the tomb of Kha-sekhemui (*Abydos I*, XIV—XV). In this cemetery, as in cemeteries 1500 and 2000 (see vol. II, page 1121), the graves are in many respects about half a dynasty behind the royal tombs at Abydos. The fashion is set in the large tombs, and gradually adopted in the small.

The three flakes with serrated edges are all from one tomb (5147) and are probably from a sickle.

4 was actually found in the filling of a VI—IX dyn. pit (4507), but was probably thrown out from an earlier grave.

No. 1 in the photograph on plate 45 came from the predynastic grave (4373).

Figs. 107 and 108 (see also pl. 48^a).

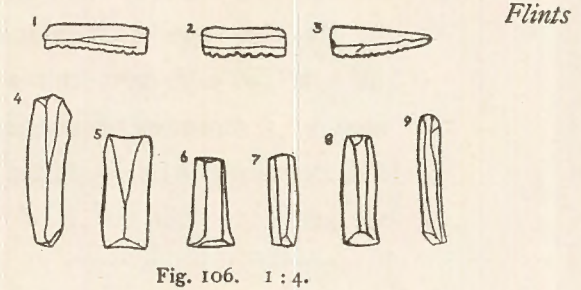


Fig. 106. 1:4.

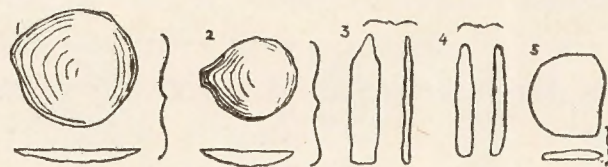


Fig. 107. N. 4506. 1:4.

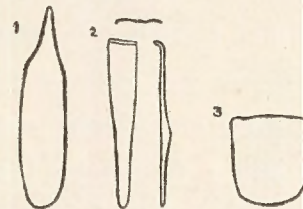


Fig. 108. N. 4711. 1:4.

The axes, 107⁵ and 108³, are of the Kha-sekhemui type (R. T. II, XLV 76). The earliest axe seems to have been oblong in shape (*Diospolis Parva*, VII U 74; *Abydos I*, L M 13), and in the tomb of Perabsen (R. T. II, XLV 21) we have a rounded shape which was intermediate between the I dyn. and Kha-sekhemui types. Cp. also *El Kab*, XVIII 60; *Mahasna*, XVI and XXIII; and pl. 40 of the II volume in this series.

For the adze (?) 107³; cp. *Mahasna*, XXIII 40.

The chisel, 107⁴, was so badly corroded that the exact shape was lost, but the general type is common in the whole protodynastic period.

108, 1 is a knife (?). Cp. *Mahasna* XVI 2.

108, 2 shews the two halves (side and front view) of a broken pair of tweezers. Cp. the tweezers found in the tomb of Mersekha (R. T. II, XLIII 15), which have the same thickening of the blade. Tweezers have also been found in early graves at El Amrah (page 23), and at Mahasna (XXXIII).

These early types can easily be distinguished from the later by the sharpness of the points. The later tweezers invariably have wide flat ends (*Diospolis Parva* XXXII 11, 12, 32).

Copper needles with round eye-holes occur frequently from the middle predynastic period downwards. Cp. *Nagada*, page 24; *El Amrah*, page 21; R. T. II, XXXV 84-89; *Mahasna*, XXIII 36-38.

Fig. 109 (see also pl. 47^a).



Fig. 109. N. 5175. 1:6. Copper ewer.

This type of copper ewer is not known previous to Kha-sekhemui (R. T. II IX 13—14). It has also been found:—

in III dyn. tombs at Mahasna (*Mahasna*, xx, bottom of plate),
in a III—IV dyn. tomb at Reqaqnah (*Third Egyptian Dynasty*, pl. 6),
and in a mastaba of the Sneferu period at El Kab (*El Kab*, III).

Of these the Kha-sekhemui and Mahasna examples have double holes in the spout, whereas those from Reqaqnah and El Kab, like ours, have only one. The El Kab ewer differs somewhat in character from the rest, its long spout and covered in top approximating much more nearly to the later type (cp. *Denderah*, xxiv).

The shape is also well known, both in pottery and stone.

Leather sheath. The leather object shewn on plate 47^d was found just outside a plundered grave (N. 4942). It is possibly a phallic sheath, of the kind shewn on the Hierakonpolis ivory figures. Examples of these sheaths, both in cloth and leather, were found in position in the predynastic cemetery N. 7000.

Bracelets, rings and beads. Of smaller objects,—broken ivory bracelets were found in graves 5147 and 3939, and parts of two shell bracelets in grave 4900 (pl. 47^{b, c}).

N. 3939 had been a rich grave. It was plundered, and the burial had been entirely removed, but in the filling and on the floor of the grave (pl. 10^e) there were seven gold finger-rings, a quantity of gold and silver beads, the ivory bracelets referred to above, a few carnelian and shell beads, and a flint flake (pl. 47^c and 48^b).

Malachite and Kohl. Malachite was found in many of the graves, and in 4139 there was a rough piece of slate, which had probably been used as a palette. Several shells were found containing *kohl* (pl. 47^{e, f}). Shells indeed seem to have been the regular receptacles for *kohl* up to about the VI dyn.: the poorer people used real shells, and the richer used stone cut into the form of shells (cp. *Third Egyptian Dynasty*, pl. 7, R. 40; *Denderah* xxi top). In 5399, in addition to the malachite and *kohl*, there was a piece of red colouring matter.

VI. LATER TOMBS.

1. Description of Tomb Types.

AS we stated in the introductory chapter, cemetery 3500 contained, in addition to the early series, a large number of tombs of later date, the early graves in many cases being completely covered by the superstructures of the later. These later tombs, from the pottery and other objects found in them, may be assigned roughly to a period between the VI and IX dynasties. They are of three types:—

- a. Burials in surface débris.
- b. Pits (1) without underground chambers,
(2) with underground chambers.

c. Rock-cut tombs.

a. *Burials in surface debris.* To this first heading belong a group of burials, in coffins, which were found immediately underneath the surface, and which had no real grave-construction of their own. In some cases use was made of the superstructure walls of other tombs, the space between two walls being enclosed by the addition of a small cross-wall. The majority, however, were simpler even than that, and were found buried loose in the sand and debris that had accumulated above the old desert level.

*Surface
burials.*

b. 1. *Pits without underground chambers.*

The pits of this type were of varying depth, ranging from 40 to 200 cm. below present level. The shallower ones were roughly rectangular in shape, and were as a rule not long enough to take any but a contracted burial. The deeper pits were more accurately cut, and were in every case constructed for a full length burial. Possibly the absence of chamber in these latter was not intentional, but was due to pressure of time or lack of money.

*Pits without
chambers.*

b. 2. *Pits with underground chambers.*

To this group belong the largest number of our graves. The pits were well cut, and varied in depth from about 150 to 350 cm: the length and breadth were fairly constant, and averaged about 200 by 80. The chambers were usually somewhat longer and wider than the pits and averaged 230 by 90 by 85 high.

*Pits with
chambers.*

Nearly all the pits had been plundered anciently, and therefore it is impossible to say whether the custom of blocking up the doors of the chambers was general in this cemetery or not. Probably it was: one example at any rate of stone blocking was found. (N. 4904.)

The relative position of chamber and pit was variable; and, as this variation of position has a distinct value as dating evidence, it will be worth our while to note briefly the differences that occur.

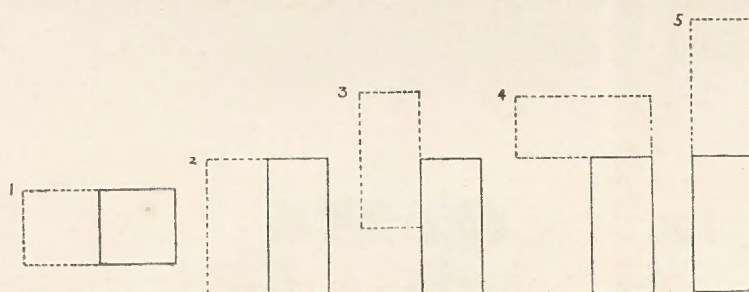


Fig. 110.

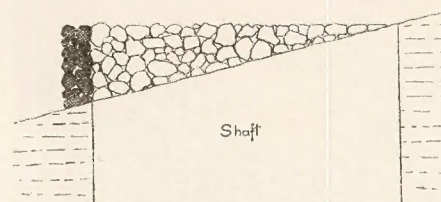


Fig. 111.

The earliest form of pit (III—VI dyn.) was square, with a chamber of varying size opening from one of its sides (figs. 110, 1). In the V—VI dyn. period the pit lengthened, presumably to facilitate the lowering of full length coffins, which came into fashion about that time; and in the period between the V and the IX dynasties we find at least four distinct variations of position. The earliest of these is undoubtedly (2), where the chamber, equal in size to the pit, opens out from its side. Nos. (3) and (4) shew variations probably intermediate between (2) and (5), while (5) is the usual type from the VII dyn. onwards.¹

*Relative
position of
chamber and
pit.*

¹ In the XVIII dyn. (2) again came into fashion in certain places. At Dér-el-Ballas for example it was practically the only type found.

In this cemetery (1) and (3) do not occur at all. There is one example of (2); there are three examples of (4); and the remainder all belong to (5). These facts alone, if there were no other evidence available, would give strong grounds for dating the graves to a period subsequent to the VI dynasty.

*Upper part
of pit faced
with stone.*

In the lower part of the cemetery, where there was an accumulation of a hundred centimetres or more of loose sand and gravel between surface and bed-rock, it had been found necessary to face the upper half of the pit with a wall of rough stones. On rising ground this stone facing was made to serve an additional purpose, namely that of levelling the surface of the pit. This was done by increasing the height of the wall at the lower end of the pit, and gradually decreasing it up the slope (see fig. III).

*Super-
structures*

There was as a rule nothing on the surface to mark the site of the shallower graves. Most of the deeper pits, however, shewed traces at least of superstructures, and it is probable that originally all of the pits were covered by more or less elaborate constructions.

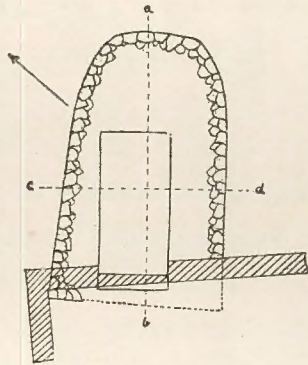


Fig. 112. N. 4907. 1:100.

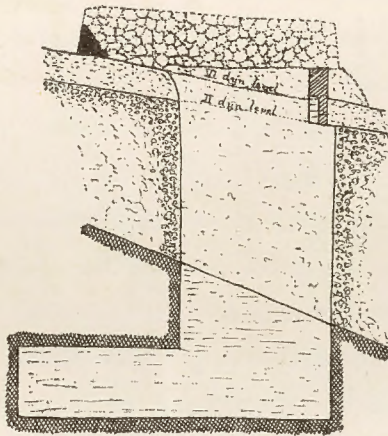


Fig. 113. Section a...b. 1:100.

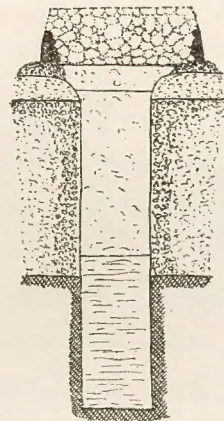


Fig. 114. Section c...d. 1:100.

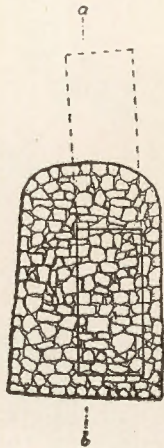


Fig. 115. N. 4904. 1:100.

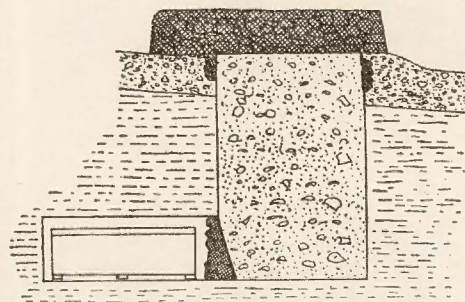


Fig. 116. Section a...b. 1:100.

These superstructures were practically all of one type. (See figs. 112 to 116, and also plates 40-41.) They were constructed of rough stones, faced with mud, and were frequently built considerably askew to the original direction of the pit. One end, the end furthest from the chamber, was straight, and was as a rule wider than the chamber end, which

was roughly rounded. The construction was solid and completely covered the mouth of the pit, though not necessarily the chamber. The sides were built with a rough batter, and the top was either flat or slightly rounded. The height, judging from the best preserved examples, was about 50 or 60 centimetres. On sloping ground the superstructure was kept level by building up the lower end on a foundation of loose stones or rubbish. Figs. 112-114 shew ground-plan and sections of tomb 4907. On the west side the east superstructure wall of an early grave (4506) was cut away to make room for the pit; while the new superstructure was built on top of the old one, and was partly supported by it. Figs. 115-116 shew ground-plan and section—somewhat restored—of tomb 4904.

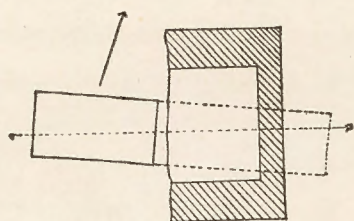


Fig. 117. N. 4999. 1:100.

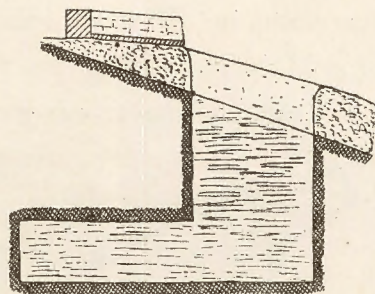


Fig. 118. Section a...b. 1:100.

There were two exceptions to this main type of superstructure. One, No. 4999, had an enclosing wall of brick, and inside this there was a brick pavement which covered the mouth of the pit (fig. 117-118). In the other, 5112, (see general map) we have a stone and mud construction of the usual type, but, added to one end, there was a supplementary structure of brick.

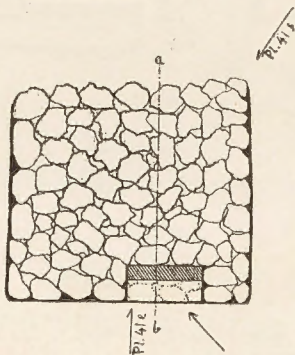


Fig. 119. N. 4748. 1:50.



Fig. 120. Section a...b. 1:50.

One other superstructure, that marked 4748 in the general map, needs special notice, as it has two features that distinguish it from all the rest (figs. 119-120). One point of difference was that at the east end there was a niche, containing a stela and two pottery ring-stands (see pl. 41^e). The other lay in the fact that, though in appearance and method of construction this superstructure resembled the others, it yet neither covered a pit, nor had any apparent connection with any of the neighbouring pits.

c. *Rock-cut tombs.*

The part of the cemetery with which this volume is concerned only contained six examples

*Rock-cut
tombs.*

of this type of grave. Further up the slope there were rock-cut tombs in plenty, but these will be described in detail in another volume.

Of the six before us, five were not, strictly speaking, rock-cut tombs at all, being constructed in the gravel deposit of the lower end of the cemetery. The term 'rock-cut' has, however, come to have a mere generic sense, and the graves in question conform in every other way to the rock-cut type. All five were very similar in character, and consisted of a sloping entrance passage, and a large chamber from which one or two smaller chambers opened. These smaller chambers were as a rule about equal in size and height to the ordinary pit-chamber. The roofs of the large chambers had in every case either wholly or partly broken in, but the average height could be estimated at about 100 centimetres. None of the five contained a pit.

N. 4746.

The sixth tomb, being higher up the slope, was cut out of bed-rock, and was much more elaborate (figs. 121-122). In front there was a wide court, enclosed by walls of roughly

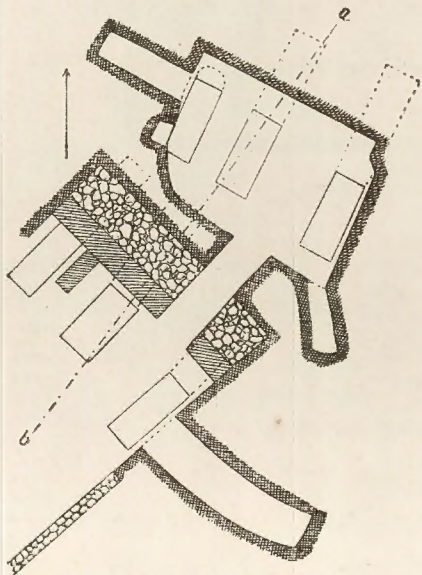


Fig. 121. N. 4746. 1:20.

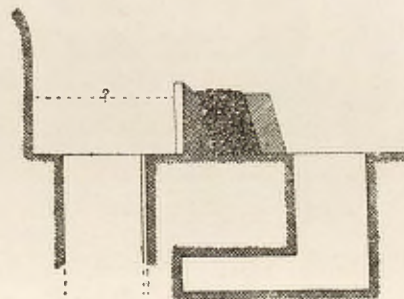


Fig. 122. Section a...b. 1:200.

built stone: this court contained three pits, and opening from it there was a small lateral chamber. From the court a narrow passage gave entrance to the principal chamber, which contained three pits and three smaller chambers. The façade of the tomb was supplemented by a double wall; the outer being of brick and the inner of stone. The pits varied in depth from 175 to 575 centimetres. The roof of the main chamber had almost entirely broken away, but enough remained to shew that the height had been somewhere about 130.

Orientation
of tombs.

No particular importance seems to have been attached to direction at this period, though the E—W position was certainly the more popular. In the pits running E—W the chambers, with two exceptions, were at the east end. Those running N—S followed no rule, the chamber occurring at either end.

2. The Burials.

But a small minority of these later graves had escaped the hands of the plunderer. Only thirty four skeletons were left in position, and most of these, buried as they were in deep

pits, whose chambers were barely above high water level, were almost entirely rotted away by the damp. In nine cases only were the bones sufficiently well preserved to allow the sex to be identified. Some, and probably all, had had wooden coffins, but in the deeper pits this could only be detected by a slight darkening of the sand or a stain on the sides of the chamber.

Details of position etc. are summarized in the following table:—

Details of position.

On right side: head E, facing N. 4509.

„ S, E and W. None.

On left side: head W, facing N. None;

head E, „ S. 4176, 4138, 4335, 4910;

head N, „ E. 4132, 5198, 4334;

head S, „ W. 4948.

On back: head N. 4776, 5395, 4904, 4911,¹ 4916,¹ 5145, 4534;

head S. 5197, 4577;

head E. 4746^f, 4746^e, 4998, 4333, 5390, 5391, 4578, 4579, 4704, 4949, 4332, 4908, 4947, 4907, 5112, 4130.

head W. None.

Legs straight: 4746^f, 4746^e, 4776, 4998, 4333, 5197, 5390, 5395, 5391, 4578, 4579, 4704, 4949, 4332, 4908, 4904, 4947,² 4907,² 5145, 5112, 4534, 4130, 4577.

Legs bent: 4176, 4132, 5198, 4138, 4335, 4948, 4334, 4911, 4910, 4916, 4509.

Arms straight: 4746^f, 4746^e, 4776, 4998, 4333, 5197, 5390, 5395, 5391, 4578, 4579, 4704, 4949, 4332, 4908, 4904, 5145, 5112, 4534, 4130, 4577.

Arms bent: 4176, 4132, 5198, 4138, 4335, 4948, 4334, 4911, 4910, 4916, 4509.

Adults: 4746^f, 4746^e, 4776, 4176, 4333, 5197, 5390, 5391, 5198, 4578, 4579, 4704, 4138, 4949, 4948, 4332, 4908, 4904, 4911, 4947, 4910, 4916, 4577, 5145, 5112, 4534, 4130.

Children (under 20): 4998, 4132, 5395, 4335, 4334, 4907, 4509.

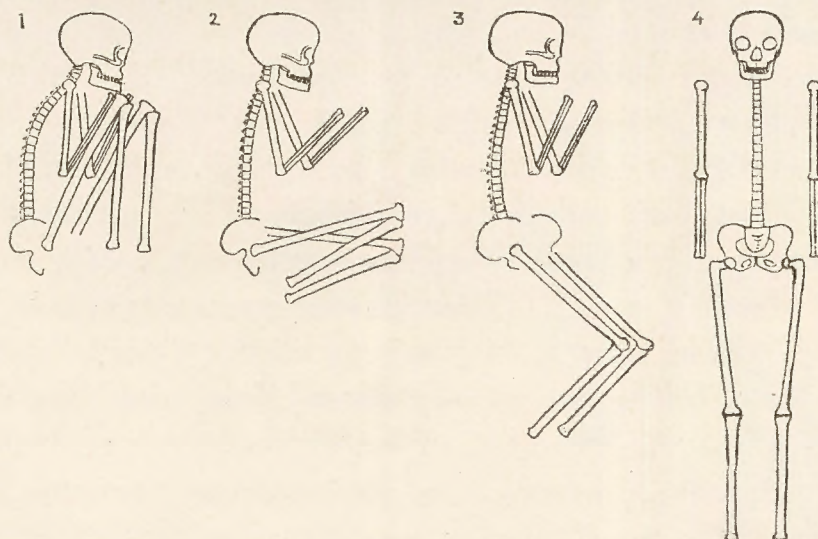


Fig. 123.

¹ In these two cases the legs were bent, so that the bodies must originally have been on their sides.

² In these two burials the arms were missing.

Male: 4704, 4335, 4332, 4908, 4904, 4577, 4509.

Female: 4746^e, 4578.

Thus out of thirty four burials noted there were 25 on their backs, and 9 on their sides: 23 were buried at full length, while 11 were more or less contracted.

Types of burial position. The amount of contraction varied considerably; so much so that we can divide the burials into four distinct types (fig. 123). Of course there were slight differences in the various burials, in the exact position of the arms for example, or the crossing of the legs, but the types were distinct and each burial could be definitely assigned to one or other of the four.

Of the first type (1) there were three examples, all surface burials.

Of the second (2) there were two examples, both in shallow pits.

Of the third (3) there were six examples—one a surface burial, two in deep chamberless pits, and three in pits with chambers.

Of the fourth (4) there were twenty-three examples—two surface burials, one in a deep chamberless pit, and twenty in pits with chambers.

Amount of contraction in inverse proportion to depth of grave. A comparison of these figures shews us that as a general rule surface graves contain sharply-contracted burials, shallow pits contain semi-contracted burials, and deep pits contain fully-extended burials. In other words the amount of contraction in the burial is in inverse proportion to the depth of the grave. That granted we must next set ourselves to discover the reason why the position of the body is thus influenced by the depth of the grave.

Not due to difference of race or date. Two explanations readily suggest themselves, namely that the burials are not all of one date, or that the difference of position shews a difference of race. Of these two suggestions the former is negatived by the fact that the pottery found with the shallow burials is identical with that found in the deeper pits, and so may be at once set aside. The latter opens up the vexed question of whether there was, or was not, a distinct racial difference between the predynastic and dynastic Egyptian; and as the position of the burial has a very direct bearing on this question, it would perhaps be worth our while here to examine more particularly the details and range of contracted burials.

Details and range of contracted burials. Burials in a crouching position, prior to the discovery of prehistoric cemeteries, were practically unknown in Egypt, and it was largely this difference of position that led first observers to class the whole type of burial as non-Egyptian. As nothing was known of the burial customs of the earlier dynasties, the predynastic burials could only be compared with the later dynastic full-length burials, and it was not unnatural to suppose that such a wide difference in custom could only mean a difference in race. Now however that we have full records of graves covering the whole period between the first and the twelfth dynasties, and can compare the predynastic with the early dynastic graves, we have to change completely our point of view. In burial-position, as in all other points of archaeology, we can trace a steady development right through from predynastic to dynastic. No sudden change takes place at all. Among the poorer classes the sharply-contracted burial is universal up to the sixth dynasty. From then onwards the contraction becomes gradually less. By the twelfth dynasty all burials are full length, and with the exception of 'Pan-graves' remain so down to the present day. Among the rich the full length position comes into fashion a dynasty or so earlier, and by the sixth

Full-length position introduced by the rich class.

dynasty is generally in use; though a small minority, while conforming to the new fashion of full length coffins, still keep to the contracted position.

Supporters of the first dynasty invasion theory may say that this introduction of the full length position by the rich, and its gradual adoption by all classes, is really an argument in their favour — the invaders introduced the full length position, and the original inhabitants adopted it. The argument is plausible, but is not borne out by the facts. If this invasion took place, the conditions of burial in the earlier dynastic cemeteries would be somewhat as follows. The majority of the burials would for a time keep their old position, neither increasing nor decreasing the contraction, but, mixed with them, we should certainly find a few in full extended position. The tomb structures and grave deposits of the earliest extended burials would differ considerably from those of the contemporary contracted burials. There would be no semi-contractions such as we find in this cemetery, as those of the old inhabitants who adopted the new custom would almost certainly adopt it in full. That is what one would expect. What one finds is very different. To begin with, the early dynastic burials are as a class more sharply contracted than the predynastic¹ — the almost universal position of the former is Fig. 123, 1, while the predynastic conform much more nearly to Fig. 123, 2 — and it is difficult to see why the introduction of the full length position should tend to increase the contraction in the native burial. Full length burials are absolutely unknown until the fourth dynasty at any rate, and then the graves in which they occur are side by side with graves containing contracted burials, and are similar to them in every way. From then onwards the evolution of the burial position follows a regular course. From the contracted position (1) we come gradually, through (2), to the semi-contracted (3), and thence to the fully extended. Next the body, though not yet mummified, was swathed round with innumerable bandages, then superficially mummified, and so, gradually improving the method of treatment, we arrive at the elaborate embalming process of the eighteenth dynasty.

Change of position not due to foreign influence.

The burials before us then are of the same date, and there is no reason to suppose that race-difference had anything to do with the variation of position. The real explanation is much simpler. We stated above that the movement in favour of an extended position of burial was started by the rich and gradually adopted by the poor, and in this cemetery we see the whole process taking place. In the poorest and least elaborate graves we have fully contracted burials; as the graves become deeper and more elaborate the contraction becomes less, and in the most costly grave of all we find the burial fully extended. Naturally there are one or two exceptions, but the main line of development is quite distinct.

Conclusions.

Very little attention seems to have been paid to the direction in which the bodies were laid.² The head to the east is the commonest position, but that may very likely be due to the fact that the majority of the pits ran E—W, and the burial was usually put into the chamber head foremost.

Direction of burials.

One burial calls for special comment (pl. 43^b). As will be seen from the plate the body was

N. 4579.

¹ Compare the burials in *Nagada and Ballas* V, LXXXII, LXXXIII and *El Amrah and Abydos* V with those on plates 33-38 of this volume.

² In cemetery 760, which contained graves of the same date, the position was much more constant, the burials almost invariably having their heads to the north. [Due however to slope of ground. D^r A. R.]

standing almost directly on its head, with its feet against the side of the pit. Presumably the burial was a hasty one and the coffin was allowed to slide down from one end of the pit instead of being lowered with ropes.

3. Objects found.

The objects found in these later tombs are shewn on plates 56 and 57. Most of them come from the rock-cut tomb 4746.

Stone cylinder-seal.

56^a. The stone cylinder-seal, of which three views and a cast are shewn, was found in one of the small lateral chambers of 4746. The roof of the chamber was broken, and the burial of 4547, a III dyn. tomb, had fallen through; so that from its position the cylinder might have belonged to either of these two tombs. From its general style, however, and the similarity of its designs to those of the well-known class of button-seals, there is very little doubt that it belongs to the later period.

Beads, amulets etc.

56^b. The unnumbered carnelian beads (VI—IX?) and glaze seal (XVIII?) were found loose in the débris in the upper part of the cemetery. They were probably thrown out from one of the rock-cut tombs.

The carnelian leg amulet came from a plundered VI—IX dyn. pit.

The remainder of the objects came from 4746. Of these the two glaze scaraboids and the bronze ring came from the XVIII dyn. intrusive burial, and the rest — carnelian and glaze beads, and shells—belong to the original burial.

Limestone stela.

56^c. Limestone painted stela, found in position with two ring-stands before it (pl. 41^e), in the curious superstructure (4748) described on page 51. The stela, a very roughly executed piece of work, is dedicated to 'the priestess of Hathor, the *Hnt-t ȝmt*, Setek, whose good name was Mer-it'.

Spear-heads.

56^d. The two long bronze spear-heads were found in the filling of one of the interior pits (c) of 4746 (see plan on page 52).

Of the shorter spear-heads one (4536) was found in the filling of a plundered pit. The other (4904) was found in position over an unplundered pit. This spear, which with its shaft measured 330 cm. in length, was placed over the pit on ground level, and was covered by the stone superstructure (see pl. 41^b). The shaft was badly worm-eaten and decayed: it had measured roughly 5 cm. in diameter at the end, and 3.5 cm by the blade. Both of these types of spear-head were found in other VI—IX dyn. tombs of the site.

The bronze model-table was found in the filling of a plundered pit. A similar table was found in the debris near 5103.

56^e. contains various remains from tomb 4746: 2 alabaster kohl pots, a pottery kohl pot, a wooden chair-leg and a piece of a stone offering table, from the original burial; a broken glaze vase with a painted net pattern, and a piece of a small glaze dish, from the XVIII dyn. reburial; and an iron arrow-head, of much later date?

56^f. Remains of two or three limestone stelae from 4746. The largest piece gives the name of the wife?

57^a. Types of ring-stands and other pots from the VI—IX dyn. pits.

Pottery.

57^b. Pottery from 4746. Nos. 2, 16 and 29 belong to the XVIII dyn. reuse, and the rest to the original burials.

VII. CATALOGUE OF TOMBS

(in numerical order).

3551 (see page 19). II dyn.: rectangular pit, $550 \times 360 \times \text{circ. } 250^1$; direction N—S; brick lined, probably corbel-vaulted; rough stairway on W side; plundered; no burial.

Contained:—several broken stone vases (pl. 45^a) pieces of several rough pots.

3938. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit; $74 \times 50 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered; contained nothing.

3939 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular pit; $122 \times 95 \times 130$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; plundered; no burial.

Contained:—several gold rings; gold, electrum, carnelian and shell beads (pl. 48^b and 47^c); small flint flake (pl. 47^c).

4130. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $210 \times 100 \times 380$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure; burial on back, uncontracted, head E.

Contained:—bronze model table of offerings (pl. 56^d).

4131 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $90 \times 45 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered; burial sharply contracted, head N, face W; contained nothing.

4132. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $85 \times 35 \times ?$; direction N. S.; burial slightly contracted, head N, face E; contained nothing.

4133. III dyn.: shallow irregular pit, $90 \times 70 \times ?$; direction N—S; contracted burial, head S, face W; contained nothing.

4134 (page 27). III dyn.: shallow rectangular stone lined pit, $110 \times 75 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered; sharply contracted burial, head S, face W; contained nothing.

4136 (page 29). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $135 \times 80 \times 80$; direction N—S; pit covered with large rough stones; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained: 10 rough pots (pl. 54^a).

4137. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $115 \times 68 \times ?$; direction N—S; pottery coffin; plundered; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W. Contained: 1 rough pot.

4138. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $112 \times 62 \times ?$; direction E—W; burial slightly contracted, head E, face S.

Contained:—7 rough pots (pl. 57^a).

4139 (page 25). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $150 \times 88 \times 135$; direction N—S; pit covered with large rough stones; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—1 rough pot,

5 stone vases (pl. 46^c, 45^{c 20}),

2 flint flakes (pl. 45^{b 4, 5}),

1 carnelian bead.

¹ The measurements in this chapter are in every case stated in centimetres.

4148 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit; direction N—S; plundered.

Contained: 4 broken alabaster vases (pl. 46^d).

4173. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $90 \times 65 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered; contained nothing.

4174. VI dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $105 \times 48 \times ?$; direction E—W; plundered, contained nothing.

4175. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $105 \times 74 \times ?$; direction N—S; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained: 3 pots (pl. 49^b) and 54^a).

4176. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $100 \times 66 \times ?$; direction E—W; plundered; burial contracted, head E, face S; contained nothing.

4177. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit; $85 \times 45 \times ?$; direction N—S.; plundered; contained nothing.

4178. III dyn.: remains of pottery coffin near surface; direction N—S; contained nothing.

4179 (page 22). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $168 \times 108 \times 145$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head N, face E.

Contained:—2 rough pots,

alabaster dish (pl. 45^{c 2}),

handled vase of glazed pottery (pl. 49^b).

4302. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $142 \times 85 \times ?$; direction E—W; burial on back, uncontracted, head E.

Contained: 1 pot (type 57^{b 25}).

4303. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $95 \times 65 \times 55$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head N, face E; contained nothing.

4304. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $170 \times 75 \times 130$; direction E—W; plundered; contained nothing.

4305. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit $195 \times 85 \times 190$; direction E—W; plundered; contained nothing.

4306. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $220 \times 85 \times 310$; direction E—W; plundered; contained nothing.

4307. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $160 \times 80 \times 285$; direction E—W; plundered; contained nothing.

4308. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $190 \times 85 \times 265$; direction E—W; plundered; contained nothing.

4309. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $198 \times 85 \times 150$; direction E—W; plundered; contained nothing.

4330. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $185 \times 80 \times 155$; direction E—W; burial on back, uncontracted, head E. Contained nothing.

4331. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $200 \times 80 \times 235$; direction E—W; plundered; burial on back, head E. Contained nothing.

4332. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $200 \times 88 \times 255$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure; burial on back, uncontracted, head E; contained nothing.

4333. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $200 \times 88 \times 305$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure; burial on back, uncontracted, head E.

Contained: pieces of 3 rough pots and of a saucer (type 57^{a 5}, 57^{b 25}).

4334. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $185 \times 80 \times 215$; direction E—W; chamber at right angles to pit; burial slightly contracted, head N, face E; contained nothing.
4335. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $190 \times 90 \times 275$; direction E—W; burial slightly contracted, head E, face S; contained nothing.
- 4336 (page 26). II—III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $110 \times 68 \times ?$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained: 7 rough pots (pl. 52^b).

- 4337 (page 29). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit $134 \times 90 \times 200$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; pit covered with a rough arching of bricks and stones; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W. Contained: 4 rough pots (pl. 51^a).
4338. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $120 \times 70 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered; contained nothing.
4339. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $150 \times 95 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered; contained nothing.
- 4370 (page 21). II dyn.: rectangular pit, $300 \times 165 \times ?$; direction N—S; pit lined with brick and divided into two by brick partition-wall; pit covered with three or four large blocks of stone; plundered.

Contained:—pieces of several alabaster vases.

1 flint flake (pl. 45^b 10).

4371. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $82 \times 68 \times ?$; direction N—S; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—1 rough pot,

1 alabaster cylinder jar (pl. 46^f 5).

- 4373 (page 19). Middle predynastic: rough oval shallow pit, $85 \times 64 \times ?$ direction N—S; contracted burial, head S, face W.

Contained:—3 pots (pl. 49^a),

1 rough flint (pl. 45^b 1).

4374. III dyn.: shallow, rectangular stone-lined pit, $115 \times 70 \times ?$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—3 rough pots (pl. 52^a),

1 alabaster vase (pl. 45^c 8),

1 carnelian and several glaze beads.

- 4375 (page 27). II—III dyn.: rectangular pit, $162 \times 100 \times 115$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face E.

Contained:—1 rough pot,

1 white-pot with painted band (pl. 49^b),

vase of pink limestone (pl. 45^c 16).

- 4376 (page 22). II—III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $170 \times 130 \times 100$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; plundered.

Contained:—2 rough pots,

8 alabaster vases (pl. 46^e),

copper model axe-head, chisel, dish etc. (pl. 48^a).

4377 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular stone lined pit, $120 \times 75 \times 75$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; pottery coffin covered with rough slabs of stone; plundered.

Contained:—4 rough pots (pl. 53^b).

4378. III dyn.: shallow rectangular brick-lined pit, $60 \times 40 \times ?$; direction N—S; contracted burial, head S, face W; contained nothing.

4379 (page 21). II dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $204 \times 116 \times 155$; direction N—S; pit covered with large rough slabs of stone; brick superstructure; plundered; contained nothing.

4500. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $105 \times 80 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered; contained nothing.

4501. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $140 \times 85 \times ?$; direction E—W; plundered.

Contained:—1 rough pot (type 57^a 3).

4502. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $210 \times 80 \times 360$; direction E—W; plundered.

Contained:—pieces of a rough pot or of a pottery ring-stand.

4503. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber $210 \times 100 \times 350$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure; plundered.

Contained:—2 rough pots (type 57^a 3).

4504 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit $98 \times 70 \times 110$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; plundered; contained nothing.

4505 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $140 \times 76 \times 125$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; plundered; contained nothing.

4506 (page 24). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $172 \times 140 \times 130$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; enclosing wall; plundered.

Contained:—5 alabaster vases (pl. 46^d),

copper model axe-head, chisel, dishes etc. (pl. 48^a).

4507. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure; plundered.

Above pit 4 pottery ring-stands (pl. 57^a 2).

In the filling of the pit—a carnelian leg amulet (pl. 56^b), and a flint flake (pl. 45^b 15), the latter thrown out from an earlier grave (?).

4509. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $175 \times 80 \times ?$; direction E—W; burial slightly contracted, head E, face N; contained nothing.

4518. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $110 \times 76 \times ?$; direction N—S; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.

4519 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $100 \times 70 \times 90$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.

4530. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $195 \times 95 \times 355$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure; contained nothing.

4531. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $192 \times 90 \times 340$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure; contained nothing.

4532 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $182 \times 129 \times 125$; direction N—S; brick superstructure: burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—pieces of 12 alabaster vases (pl. 46^a),

2 rough pots,
2 flint flakes (pl. 45^b 2, 3),
2 shells containing kohl (pl. 47^c),
scraps of malachite (pl. 47^c),
copper needles (pl. 47^c).

4533. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $190 \times 86 \times 400$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure; contained nothing.

4534. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $176 \times 90 \times 300$; direction N—S; superstructure of stones and mud; burial on back, uncontracted, head N; contained nothing.

4535. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $210 \times 90 \times 370$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure; contained nothing.

4536. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $210 \times 90 \times 432$; direction E—W; superstructure of stones and mud; plundered.

Contained:—a bronze spear-head (pl. 56^d).

4537. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $160 \times 80 \times 200$; direction E—W; contained nothing.

4538. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $210 \times 77 \times 210$; direction E—W; contained nothing.

4539. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $200 \times 80 \times 220$; direction E—W; contained nothing.

4547 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $105 \times 55 \times 118$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; brick pavement in front of W side; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—3 rough pots (pl. 54^a).

4548 (page 26). III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $118 \times 40 \times ?$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—1 rough pot.

4549. II dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $235 \times 200 \times ?$; direction N—S; may have been corbel-vaulted; contained nothing.

4570. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $160 \times 100 \times ?$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; plundered; remains of burial of a child; also in a large pot (pl. 32) burial of a baby.

4571. III dyn.: shallow rectangular stone-lined pit, $113 \times 107 \times 55$; direction N—S; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—2 rough pots.

4572 (page 23). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $154 \times 102 \times 134$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; enclosing wall on W side; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—3 rough pots and 1 pottery dish (Fig. 90).

4573 (page 25). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $120 \times 60 \times 100$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—10 rough pots (pl. 50^a),
 piece of a pebble-burnished saucer (pl. 50^a),
 2 alabaster vases (pl. 45^c 13, 19).

4574. VI—IX dyn.: direction N—S; surface burial, head N, face W; plundered.
 4575. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, 86×66×?; direction N—S; pottery coffin; burial plundered, had been sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
 4576. III dyn.: rectangular pit, 110×68×95; direction N—S.; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—2 rough pots,
 pot in dull red ware with splashes of paint on shoulder similar to predynastic (pl. 49^b).

4577. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, 200×80×280; direction N—S; burial on back, uncontracted, head S. Contained nothing.
 4578. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, 200×80×150; direction E—W; burial on back, uncontracted, head E. Contained nothing.
 4579. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, 190×80×130; direction E—W; burial on back, uncontracted, head E; contained nothing.
 4598. II dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, 235×166×?; direction N—S; corbel-vaulted; sloping entrance on N side; plundered.

Contained:—pieces of 2 rough pots.

4599. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, 95×54×?; direction E—W; contained nothing.
 4700 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, 140×92×75; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; wooden coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
 4701 (page 28). III dyn.: rectangular pit, 110×80×90; direction N—S; pit covered with a mixture of bricks and rough stones; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
 4702 (page 29). III dyn.: rectangular pit, 125×74×92; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—an alabaster dish (pl. 45^c 11).

- 4703 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, 147×115×115; direction N—S; brick superstructure; plundered; contained nothing.
 4704. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, 194×90×350; direction E—W; superstructure of stones and mud; burial on back, uncontracted, head E; contained nothing.
 4705 (page 26). III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, 100×55×?; direction N—S; grave covered with rough stones and mud; wooden coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained: 2 strands of glazed pottery beads (pl. 47^b).

4706. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, 200×95×340; direction E—W; superstructure of stones and mud; plundered; contained nothing.
 4707 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, 140×95×105; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—2 rough pots (pl. 49^c).

4708. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $180 \times 80 \times 250$; direction N—S; burial on back, uncontracted; head N; contained nothing.
- 4709 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $85 \times 52 \times 80$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; wooden coffin; burial sharply contracted, on back, head S; contained nothing.
4710. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $? \times 80 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.
4711. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $180 \times 115 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered.
 Contained:—copper model spear-head, axe-head etc. (pl. 48^a),
 fragments of several stone vases.
- 4712 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $117 \times 74 \times 75$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick-superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.
 Contained:—3 rough pots.
4713. III dyn.: shallow burial in pottery coffin; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; on burial remains of cloth; contained nothing.
4714. III dyn.: burial in a large pot; young child, very sharply contracted (pl. 32).
- 4715 (page 26). III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $104 \times 58 \times ?$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
- 4716 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $120 \times 85 \times 110$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.
 Contained:—5 rough pots.
- 4717 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $130 \times 75 \times 95$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, on back, head S.
 Contained:—2 rough pots (pl. 49^e 9),
 1 alabaster vase (pl. 45^c 4).
4718. III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $77 \times 64 \times 46$; direction N—S; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, on stomach, head S.
 Contained:—1 small pot (pl. 49^b),
 2 small pieces of copper.
4719. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $80 \times 42 \times ?$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head N, face E; contained nothing.
4730. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $110 \times 65 \times 70$; direction E—W; superstructure of stones and mud; plundered.
 Contained:—2 or 3 pieces of a rough pot.
4731. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $122 \times 70 \times 70$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; plundered.
 Contained:—pieces of two or three rough pots.
4732. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $120 \times 72 \times ?$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.
 Contained:—2 rough pots and a rough saucer (pl. 49^c).
4733. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $92 \times 66 \times ?$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.
 Contained:—1 rough pot.

- 4734 (page 21). II—III dyn.: rectangular pit, $102 \times 66 \times 110$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; pit covered with large flat stones; plundered.

Contained: 5 rough pits and a piece of a rough dish (pl. 50^a).

- 4735 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $125 \times 84 \times 98$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; plundered.

Contained:—large flat-bottomed pot (pl. 55^g),
several rough pots (pl. 50^b),
2 pieces of a pebble-burnished dish (pl. 50^b).

4736. III dyn.: shallow rectangular stone-lined pit, $105 \times 75 \times ?$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—2 rough pots.

- 4737 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $105 \times 56 \times 52$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.

4738. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $118 \times 70 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.

4740. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $130 \times 70 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.

4741. VI—IX dyn.: rock-cut tomb with 2 chambers; direction E—W; plundered.

Contained:—1 rough pot (type 57^a 3),
a rough piece of sandstone, used as a paint grinder.

4742. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $190 \times 85 \times 410$; direction E—W; plundered.

Contained:—1 pot,
copper needle 8.3 cm. long.

- 4743 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $95 \times 86 \times ?$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones; brick superstructure; brick pavement before W face; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.

4744. III dyn.: shallow burial in pottery coffin; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head N, face W; contained nothing.

4745. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $104 \times 60 \times ?$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.

- 4746 (page 52). VI—IX dyn.: rock-cut tomb with 4 chambers and 6 pits; front of tomb built up with brick and stone; reused in XVIII dyn.: all chambers plundered. 2 burials left, each on back, uncontracted, head E.

Contained:—a quantity of pottery (pl. 57^b),
pieces of 2 or 3 stelae (pl. 56^f),
pieces of painted coffins etc.
2 bronze spear-heads (pl. 56^d),
glazed pottery scarab and scaraboid, bronze ring, few carnelian, glaze
and shell beads (pl. 56^b).

- 4747 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $118 \times 72 \times 80$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—1 alabaster dish (pl. 45^c 10).

- 4748 (page 51). VI—IX dyn.: direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure with niche for stela; no pit underneath, so must have belonged to one of the neighbouring graves.
 Contained:—limestone painted stela (pl. 56^c),
 2 pottery ring-stands (pl. 57^a 1, 10).
- 4749 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular pit, 140×80×70; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
- 4770 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, 108×68×120; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones; brick superstructure; plundered; contained nothing.
- 4771 (page 22). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, 165×124×120; direction N—S; pit covered with large rough stones and mud; brick superstructure, remains of enclosing wall on W side; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.
 Contained:—7 rough pots (pl. 53^b),
 rough pottery saucer (pl. 53^b),
 4 alabaster vases (pl. 46^c),
 small flint flake,
 1 carnelian bead.
- 4772 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, 125×82×80; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.
 Contained:—5 rough pots (pl. 52^a).
- 4773 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular pit, 115×70×82; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.
 Contained:—3 rough pots (pl. 54^a),
 pot with light polish, similar to late predynastic (pl. 49^b).
4774. II dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, 182×110×142; direction N—S; pit covered with three or four large slabs of stone; brick superstructure; plundered.
 Contained:—a broken dish with wide pebble-burnish.
4775. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber; direction N—S; plundered; contained nothing.
4776. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, with underground chamber, 200×85×230; direction N—S; burial on back, uncontracted, head N; contained nothing.
4777. VI—IX dyn.: rock-cut tomb with 3 chambers; direction N—S; plundered.
 Contained:—several pots of types 57^b 25, 3, and 57^a 5, 8.
4778. VI—IX dyn.: rock-cut tomb with 3 chambers; plundered.
 Contained:—3 pots of types 57^b 25, 21 and 57^a 5.
4779. VI—IX dyn.: rock-cut tomb; direction N—S; plundered; contained only fragments of pottery.
4790. III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, 125×80×?; direction N—S; plundered.
 Contained:—2 or 3 pieces of rough pottery and a coarse pottery bead.
4791. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, 146×62×?; direction N—S; plundered; contained nothing.
4792. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, 112×75×?; direction N—S; pottery coffin; plundered; contained nothing.

4793. III dyn.: shallow rectangular stone-lined pit, $160 \times 142 \times ?$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
4794. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, with underground chamber, $195 \times 80 \times 340$; direction E—W; plundered; burial had been on back, uncontracted, head E.
4795. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $90 \times 86 \times ?$; direction E—W; plundered; contained nothing.
4796. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit; so much denuded that measurements were impossible; direction N—S; contained nothing.
4797. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $140 \times 90 \times ?$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face E; contained nothing.
4798. III dyn.: shallow rectangular stone-lined pit, $140 \times 90 \times ?$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face E; contained nothing.
4799. III dyn.: shallow rectangular brick-lined pit, $80 \times 54 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered.
Contained:—1 small alabaster vase.
- 4900 (page 28). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $136 \times 76 \times 80$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.
Contained:—2 alabaster vases (pl. 45^c 12, 18),
pieces of shell bracelets (pl. 47^b).
- 4901 (page 28). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $105 \times 70 \times 64$; direction N—S; pit covered with a rough arching of bricks and stones; wooden coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; traces of cloth on body.
Contained:—2 rough pots (pl. 53^a).
- 4902 (page 26). III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $124 \times 50 \times 70$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; contracted burial, head S, face W; contained nothing.
4903. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, with underground chamber, $190 \times 95 \times 425$; direction E—W; superstructure of stones and mud; contained nothing.
4904. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $200 \times 95 \times 320$; direction N—S; superstructure of stones and mud; burial on back, uncontracted, head N.
Contained:—a bronze spear-head on shaft 330 long (pl. 41^b, 56^d).
4905. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $115 \times 68 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.
- 4906 (page 28). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $90 \times 78 \times 95$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; superstructure of stones and mud; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
- 4907 (page 50). VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $205 \times 90 \times 430$; direction E—W; superstructure of stones and mud; burial on back, uncontracted, head E.
Contained:—pieces of 2 or 3 rough pots and ring-stands.
4908. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $190 \times 100 \times 360$; direction E—W; burial on back, uncontracted, head E.
Contained:—1 rough pot (type 57^a 3).
4909. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $225 \times 90 \times 350$; direction E—W; plundered.
Contained:—1 rough pot of type 57^a 3.

4910. VI—IX dyn.: surface burial in a wooden coffin; direction E—W; burial sharply contracted, head E.
4911. VI—IX dyn.: burial in an accidental cleft in the rock; direction N—S; burial on back, sharply contracted, head N.
- 4912 (page 26). III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $115 \times 82 \times ?$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—pieces of a rough pot and dish,
alabaster vase (pl. 45^c 7).

4913. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $220 + \times 85 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.
4914. III dyn.: remains of brick superstructure; all traces of actual grave had disappeared.
4915. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $132 \times 85 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered; contained nothing.
4916. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $190 \times 78 \times 180$; direction N—S; burial slightly contracted, on L side, head N; contained nothing.
4917. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $196 \times 90 \times 350$; direction E—W; superstructure of stones and mud; plundered; contained nothing.
4918. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $180 \times 85 \times 260$; direction E—W; plundered.
- Contained:—1 rough pot of type 57^a 3.
4919. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $200 \times 90 \times 340$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure.

Contained:—pieces of 3 or 4 rough pots of type 57^a 3.

4940. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $114 \times 102 \times 70$; direction N—S; pottery coffin; plundered; no burial.
- Contained:—2 rough pots (pl. 52^a).

4941. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $180 \times 80 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered; burial had been contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
- 4942 (page 28). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $85 \times 50 \times .70$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; plundered; just outside grave a small leather sheath (pl. 47^d).
- 4943 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $92 \times 45 \times 55$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
- 4944 (page 31). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $105 \times 70 \times 81$; direction N—S; pit covered with a flat pavement of bricks; brick superstructure, over which there was a rough arching of bricks and stones; burial sharply contracted, head N, face W; contained nothing.
4945. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $185 \times 92 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered; burial had been on back, uncontracted, head S.

Contained:—2 pieces of a breccia vase thrown over from an early grave.

4946. III dyn.: shallow rectangular stone-lined pit, $105 \times 95 \times ?$; direction N—S; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
4947. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $190 \times 80 \times 300 +$; direction E—W; burial on back, uncontracted, head E; contained nothing.
4948. VI—IX dyn.: rock-cut tomb with 3 chambers; direction E—W; burial in one chamber slightly contracted, head S; other chambers plundered; contained only fragments of pottery.

4949. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $190 \times 70 \times 200 +$; direction E—W; burial on back, uncontracted, head E; contained nothing.
4970. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $170 \times 85 \times 230 +$; direction E—W.
Contained:—pieces of 2 pottery dishes.
4971. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $195 \times 85 \times 200 +$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
4972. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $190 \times 90 \times 340$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
- 4973 (page 27). II—III dyn.: rectangular pit, $154 \times 70 \times 90$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; contained nothing.
- 4974 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $155 + \times 100 \times 105$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; enclosing wall on W side; pottery coffin; plundered.
Contained:—6 rough pots and 2 rough saucers (pl. 53^a),
2 pieces of a pebble-burnished saucer.
- 4975 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $165 \times 88 \times 150$; direction N—S; brick superstructure.
Contained:—4 pots and a piece of a dish (pl. 52^b),
bones of a young goat?
4976. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $206 \times 122 \times ?$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
4977. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $195 \times 85 \times 150 +$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
4978. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $200 \times 70 \times 150 +$; direction N—S.
Contained:—a piece of a rough pot.
4979. III dyn.: shallow rectangular brick-lined pit, $62 + \times 62 \times ?$; direction N—S; plundered; contained nothing.
- 4990 (page 20). II dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $292 \times 160 \times 180$; direction N—S; sloping entrance on W side; corbel-vaulted; brick superstructure; plundered.
Contained:—fragments of rough pottery.
- 4991 (page 22). II—III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $168 \times 120 \times 130$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; plundered.
Contained:—fragment of a rough pot,
1 glaze bead,
small double shell.
- 4992 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $118 \times 94 \times ?$; direction N—S; pit covered with thin slabs of stone; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.
Contained:—3 rough pots (pl. 53^a).
4994. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $190 \times 85 \times 255 +$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
4995. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $104 \times 72 \times 72$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; plundered.
Contained:—remains of a rough pot.

4996 (page 28). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $104 \times 109 \times 110$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; stone superstructure; plundered.

Contained:—fragments of rough pottery.

4997. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $220 \times 90 \times 260 +$; superstructure of stones and mud; contained nothing.

4998. VI—IX dyn.: surface burial in a wooden coffin; direction E—W; burial on back, uncontracted, head E.

4999 (page 51). VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $200 \times 80 \times 320$; direction E—W; brick superstructure; contained nothing.

5100. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $210 \times 90 \times 330 +$; direction E—W; plundered.

Contained:—pieces of rough pottery.

5101. III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $102 \times 70 \times 80$; direction N—S; pottery coffin; contained nothing.

5102. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $180 \times 70 \times 260 +$; direction E—W; contained nothing.

5103 (page 23). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $226 \times 114 \times 220$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure and enclosing wall; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—10 rough pots and a rough saucer (pl. 51^a),

6 alabaster vases (pl. 46^b),

2 limestone dummy vases (pl. 46^b 5, 6),

1 diorite bowl (pl. 46^b 10).

5104 (page 30). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $121 \times 85 \times 112$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure, above which there was a rough arching of stones and mud; enclosing wall on W side; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—1 small alabaster vase (pl. 46^f 4).

5105 (page 29). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $98 + \times 71 \times 80$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; enclosing wall on W side; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—2 rough pots (pl. 53^a).

5106 (page 29). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $130 \times 90 \times 158$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; mud pavement in front of W face; contained nothing.

5107 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $120 \times 72 \times 90$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; wooden coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.

5108 (page 29). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $105 \times 95 \times 120$; direction N—S; brick superstructure.

Contained:—a rough flint flake.

5109 (page 29). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $110 \times 78 \times 110$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; mud pavement in front of W face; contained nothing.

5110. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $200 \times 85 \times 300 +$; direction E—W; contained nothing.

5111. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $200 \times 85 \times 290$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure.

Contained:—remains of several pots, of type 57^a 3,
1 ox-horn.

5112 (page 51). VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $238 \times 85 \times 260 +$; direction E—W; superstructure partly of stone and mud, partly of brick; burial on back, uncontracted, head E; contained nothing.

5113 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $142 \times 95 \times 95$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—4 rough pots (pl. 54^a),
alabaster vase (pl. 45^c 22).

5114 (page 29). III dyn.: rectangular pit $125 \times 86 \times ?$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; plundered.

Contained:—one alabaster vase (pl. 45^c 6), and a piece of a coarse alabaster bowl.

5115. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $91 \times 67 \times ?$; direction N—S; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—1 rough pot (pl. 49^e 10).

5116. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $125 \times 95 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.

5117. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $110 \times 68 \times 100$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; contained nothing.

5118. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $185 \times 80 \times 125 +$; direction E—W; contained nothing.

5119. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $105 \times 76 \times ?$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—2 rough pots (pl. 49^e 11).

5140. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $188 \times 95 \times 390$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure; contained nothing.

5141. VI—IX dyn.; rectangular pit with underground chamber, $136 \times 85 \times 200 +$; direction E—W; contained nothing.

5142. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $115 \times 70 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.

5143. III dyn.: shallow rectangular stone-lined pit, $88 \times 60 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.

5144. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $105 \times 80 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.

5145. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit with underground chamber, $170 \times 80 \times 275 +$; direction N—S; burial on back, uncontracted, head E.

Contained:—1 rough pot of type 57^a 3, and a piece of a dish.

5146. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $225 \times 90 \times 400$; direction E—W; stone and mud superstructure; contained nothing.

5147 (page 30). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $96 \times 70 \times 75$; direction N—S; pit covered with a roofing of stones and mud, which may have been supported by a wooden coffin; brick superstructure, above which there was a rough arching of stones and mud; mud pavement in front of W face; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—3 flint flakes with serrated edges from a sickle; a small flint flake and a broken ivory bracelet (pl. 47^c).

- 5148 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $105 \times 80 \times 100$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; mud pavement in front of W face; contained nothing.
5149. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $100 \times 82 \times 95$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; contained nothing.
5170. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $80 \times 68 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.
5171. III dyn.: shallow rectangular brick-lined pit, $140 \times 105 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.
5172. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $105 \times 60 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.
5173. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $125 \times 82 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.
5174. VI—IX dyn.: pit with underground chamber, $180 \times 75 \times 205 +$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
- 5175 (page 21). II—III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $175 \times 106 \times 140$; direction N—S; pit covered with large slabs of stone; brick superstructure: plundered.

Contained: — alabaster table of offerings and pieces of other vases (pl. 46^f),
copper ewer with spout (pl. 47^a).

5176. VI—IX dyn.: surface burial; direction E—W; sides of grave indistinguishable; plundered.
5177. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $85 \times 40 \times ?$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
5178. VI—IX dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $176 \times 86 \times ?$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
5179. VI—IX dyn.: pit, with underground chamber, $175 \times 73 \times 175 +$; direction N—S; chamber unfinished.

Contained:—fragments of rough pottery.

5190. VI—IX dyn.: remains of surface burial; direction E—W.
5191. VI—IX dyn.: surface burial in wooden coffin; direction N—S; position of burial doubtful.
- 5195 (page 27). III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $85 \times 60 \times ?$; direction N—S; pit covered with thin slabs of stone; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
- 5196 (page 27). II—III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $122 \times 88 \times 80$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; contained nothing.
5197. VI—IX dyn.: remains of surface burial in wooden coffin; direction N—S; burial on back, uncontracted, head S.
5198. VI—IX dyn.: surface burial; direction N—S; burial slightly contracted, head N, face E.
- 5199 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular stone lined pit, $108 \times 80 \times ?$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, head N, face W; contained nothing.
5300. VI—IX dyn.: pit, with underground chamber, $190 \times 70 \times 260 +$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
- 5301 (page 29). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $128 \times 80 \times 82$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; contained nothing.
- 5302 (page 23). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $178 \times 138 \times 110$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; enclosing wall in front of W face; pottery coffin burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; remains of cloth on body.

Contained:—3 rough pots.

- 5303 (page 29). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $120 \times 95 \times 108$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; contained nothing.
- 5304 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $116 \times 70 \times 75$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; contained nothing.
- 5305 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $150 \times 105 \times 200$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; contained nothing.
- 5306 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $90 \times 50 \times ?$; pit covered with rough stones and mud; pottery coffin; burial sharply contracted, head S, face E; contained nothing.
5307. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $195 \times 90 \times ?$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
5308. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $100 \times 70 \times ?$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
- 5310 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $135 \times 90 \times 92$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.
Contained:—2 rough pots (pl. 49^e 7, 8).
5311. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $110 \times 72 \times 75$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.
5340. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $100 \times 82 \times 65$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.
Contained:—1 rough pot.
- 5341 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $120 \times 70 \times 110$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; brick pavement before W face; contained nothing.
5342. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, with underground chamber, $200 \times 80 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.
5370. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $95 + \times 68 \times ?$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; contained nothing.
5371. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, with underground chamber, $190 \times 76 \times 150 +$; direction E—W; contained nothing.
5390. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, with underground chamber, $200 \times 80 \times 250$; direction E—W; burial on back, uncontracted, head E; contained nothing.
5391. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, with underground chamber, $220 \times 95 \times 315$; direction E—W; superstructure of stones and mud; burial on back, uncontracted, head E; contained nothing.
5392. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, with underground chamber, $200 \times 90 \times 325 +$; direction E—W; remains of burial on back, uncontracted, head E; contained nothing.
5393. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, with underground chamber, $200 \times 85 \times 290 +$; direction N—S; superstructure of stones and mud.
Contained:—only a few fragments of rough pottery.
5394. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, $205 \times 95 \times 235 +$; direction E—W; superstructure of stones and mud; contained nothing.
5395. VI—IX dyn.: rectangular pit, with underground chamber, $190 \times 90 \times 400 +$; direction E—W; superstructure of stones and mud; chamber at right angles to pit; burial on back, uncontracted, head N.
Contained:—only fragments of pottery.

5396 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $115 \times 96 \times 80 +$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—3 rough pots (pl. 49^e 1—3).

5397 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $115 \times 78 \times 90$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—5 rough pots (pl. 49^e 4—6).

alabaster dish (pl. 46^f 2).

5398. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $95 \times 55 \times 90$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.

5399. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $140 \times 82 \times 60 +$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—3 rough pots (pl. 51^b),

piece of an alabaster dish,

2 limestone vases (pl. 47^f),

3 shells containing colouring matter (pl. 47^f).

5590. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $125 \times 82 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.

5591. III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $120 \times 90 \times 70 +$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; contained nothing.

5592. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $92 \times 46 \times 65$; direction N—S; brick superstructure; contained nothing.

5593. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $88 \times 62 \times 45 +$; direction N—S; contained nothing.

5594. III dyn.: shallow rectangular pit, $90 \times 58 \times ?$; direction N—S; contained nothing.

5596 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular brick-lined pit, $122 \times 86 \times 82$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—5 rough pots (pl. 51^c).

5597 (page 27). III dyn.: rectangular pit, $125 \times 60 \times 40 +$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—1 rough pot (pl. 53^a).

5598. III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $125 \times 105 \times 50 +$; direction N—S; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W.

Contained:—3 rough pots (pl. 49^d),

piece of a pebble-burnished pottery saucer,

alabaster bowl (pl. 45^e 1).

5599. III dyn.: rectangular pit, $88 \times 65 \times 50$; direction N—S; contained nothing.

5790 (page 26). III dyn.: rectangular stone-lined pit, $180 \times 110 \times 98$; direction N—S; pit covered with rough stones and mud; brick superstructure; burial sharply contracted, head S, face W; contained nothing.



LIST OF PLATES.

Frontispiece. Distant view of cemetery N. 3500 from the cultivation.

Plate 2. General view of cemetery 3500 at the beginning of the 1902—3 season. Taken from the north-west.

Plate 3. General view of cemetery 3500 after final clearing. Taken from the north-west.

Plate 4. General views:—

a. Lower part of cemetery. Taken from south-east.

b. Upper part of cemetery. Taken from south-east.

Plate 5. General view of cemetery 3500 from south-west, shewing VI. dyn. superstructures.

Plate 6. General view of cemetery 3500 from south-west, shewing III. dyn. superstructures. The VI. dyn. superstructures had been cleared away.

Plate 7. Details of tomb construction.

a. N. 3551. View from north-east, shewing stairway.

b. N. 4598. Entrance passage from north-west, shewing blocking of doorway.

c. N. 4598. View from south-east, shewing broken corbel, and blocking of doorway from inside.

Plate 8. Details of tomb construction.

a¹. N. 4370. Stone roofing-slab in position, from north-west.

b. N. 4379. Stone roofing-slab from north-west. Moved slightly out of position by plunderers.

c. N. 4774. General view, from south-east, shewing roofing-slabs and remains of superstructure. The pit in the foreground belongs to the later period.

d. N. 5301. Niche, from south-west. This is the only case in which the niche was continued above the lintel.

e. N. 4734. View from south-east, shewing remains of superstructure-filling. The burial had been plundered anciently.

f. General view from south-west, shewing a number of superstructures.

Plate 9. Details of tomb construction.

a. N. 4506. Superstructure, from north-east, shewing how the enclosure wall and part of the retaining wall were cut away by a later pit.

b. N. 4506. West corner of superstructure with offering niche.

c. N. 4506. Substructure, with recess for offerings, from south-east.

d. N. 4506. Nearer view of recess, shewing broken stone vases.

¹ Whereever possible the photographs in the plates are arranged to be looked at from the same point of view. In cases where this was not possible the point of view is indicated by an asterisk.

- Plate 9. e. N. 4974. Offering niche, with pottery in position before it, from south.
f. N. 4974. Same, further cleared, shewing dishes and stuccoed pavement of enclosure.
- Plate 10. Alabasters and other burial deposits, in position as found.
a. N. 4532. Broken alabasters in filling above burial. Disturbed by plunderers.
b. N. 4148. Broken alabasters on floor of grave with burial. Possibly disturbed by plunderers.
c. N. 4376. Broken alabasters on floor and under lining-walls. In position, as originally deposited.
d. N. 4711. Copper model tools on floor of grave. Disturbed by plunderers.
e. N. 3939. Gold rings on floor of grave. Disturbed by plunderers.
f. N. 5175. Copper ewer under lining-wall. In position, as originally deposited. Above it there was a piece of an alabaster table of offerings, the other pieces of which were lying near.
- Plate 11. N. 4139. Series shewing stages of clearing.
a. South-west face of superstructure, shewing niche.
b. Covering stones of pit, intact, from south-east.
c. Covering stones half removed, from south-east.
d. Same, nearer view. Note large slab under covering stones.
e. Burial, from south-east, with stone vases and pit.
- Plate 12. N. 4700 and 5310. Series shewing stages of clearing.
a. N. 4700. Covering stones of pit intact, and remains of superstructure, from north-east.
b. N. 4700. Covering stones half removed, from south-east.
c. N. 4700. Further cleared, shewing stone lining-walls.
d. N. 4700. Burial from south-east.
e. N. 5310. Pit filling half removed, shewing large pit built in with the filling, from south-east. In top left hand corner a later pit.
f. N. 5310. Burial, from south-east.
- Plate 13. N. 4707. Series shewing stages of clearing.
a. Covering stones of pit intact, from north-west. Pottery in position above pit-covering.
b. Pit covering half removed.
c. Further cleared.
d. View from south-west, shewing that the superstructure wall was built on the stones which covered the pit.
e. View from north-west, shewing burial with relation to pit-covering.
f. Burial, nearer view, from north-west.
- Plate 14. N. 5397. Series shewing stages of clearing.
a. View from south-west, shewing filling of superstructure. In the foreground, on the right hand side, the superstructure is broken away by a later pit.

- Plate 14. b. Half of the superstructure filling has been removed, to shew relation of the upper filling to the pit-covering.
 c. Shews the pit-covering, the filling of the superstructure having all been removed.
 d. Half of the pit-covering has been removed, to shew the loose filling underneath.
 e. Shews that the superstructure wall was built directly on the pit-filling. Note also a pot placed loose in the filling.
 f. Burial, from south-east, with pottery.
- Plate 15. N. 4772 and 4572. Series shewing stages of clearing.
 a. N. 4772. Pit-covering intact from north-west. Pottery placed immediately above the pit-covering.
 b. Pit-covering half-removed.
 c. Burial, from north-west.
 d. N. 4572. Pit-covering intact, from north-east.
 e. Pit-covering half removed, from north-west. Two pots built in with the pit-covering.
 f. Burial, from north-west.
- Plate 16. N. 4771 and 4573. Series shewing stages of clearing.
 a. N. 4771. Pit-covering intact.
 b. Pit-covering half removed, from south-west.
 c. Burial, from south-west, with pottery and broken alabasters.
 d. N. 4573. Pit-covering intact, from north-west.
 e. Pit-covering half removed.
 f. Burial, with alabasters by the side of the body, and pottery on a ledge above.
- Plate 17. N. 4773 and 4902. Series shewing stages of clearing.
 a. N. 4773. View from south-east, shewing pit-covering intact, and remains of superstructure.
 b. Pit-covering half removed, from south-east. Pottery placed above pit-covering.
 c. View from south-east, shewing burial with relation to pit-covering, pottery and superstructure.
 d. N. 4902. Pit-covering intact, from south-west.
 e. Pit-covering half removed, from north-west.
 f. Burial, from north-west.
- Plate 18. N. 4992 and 5195. Series shewing stages of clearing.
 a. N. 4992. Pit-covering intact, from south-east.
 b. Pit-covering half removed.
 c. Burial, with pottery built into pit lining.
 d. N. 5195. Pit-covering intact, from north-west.
 e. Pit-covering half removed.
 f. Burial.
- Plate 19. N. 4712 and 4946. Series shewing stages of clearing.
 a. N. 4712. Pit-covering intact, from south-east.

- Plate 19. b. Pit-covering half removed.
 c. Pottery under pit-covering, from north-east.
 d. Burial, with lining-wall and pottery, from north-west.
 e. N. 4946. Pottery coffin with lid, from north-west.
 f. Burial. The flat stones on edge belong to the lining wall of the pit.
- Plate 20. N. 5302 and 4749. Series shewing stages of clearing.
 a. N. 5302. West face of superstructure, with remains of enclosure wall.
 b. Pottery coffin without lid, but covered with rough slabs of stone, from north-west.
 c. One slab removed.
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 e. N. 4749. Pottery coffin without lid, but covered with rough slabs of stone, from south-east.
 f. Stone slabs half removed, shewing burial.
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 a. N. 5306. Pottery coffin covered with stone slabs, from north-east.
 b. Stone slabs half removed, from north-west.
 c. Burial, from north-west.
 d. N. 4743. Pottery coffin covered with stone slabs, from south-east.
 e. Stone slabs half removed.
 f. Burial, from north-west.
- Plate 22. N. 5199 and 4718. Series shewing stages of clearing.
 a. N. 5199. Pit-covering intact, from east.
 b. Pit-covering half removed.
 c. Pit-covering all removed. Pottery coffin with broken lid.
 d. Burial, from south-east.
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 f. Burial. A small pot in the coffin by the head.
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 e. Burial, from east.
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 a. View of superstructure and enclosure wall, from east.
 b. Filling of superstructure half removed, from north-west.
 c. Filling of superstructure entirely removed, shewing covering of pit.
 d. Filling of pit half removed.
 e. Burial, with brick lining-walls, and pottery outside the lining.
 f. Lining-walls removed, shewing the broken alabasters that were concealed under them.

- Plate 25. N. 4547. Series shewing stages of clearing.
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 - Burial, from north-west.
 - N. 4571. Burial in pottery coffin from north-west. Note the stone lining-wall, and the pots built into it.
 - N. 4798. Burial from north-west, also with stone lining-wall.
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 - Upper filling half-removed, from north-west.
 - Upper filling all removed, shewing mud covering over pit.
 - Mud half removed, shewing rough stones which covered burial.
 - Lower filling all removed, and section of brick superstructure cut to shew that the two upper courses of brick projected considerably over the two lower.
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- Plate 30. N. 4944 and 4713. Series shewing stages of clearing.
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 - Complete section of tomb, shewing arched superstructure, filling of superstructure, and pit-covering of brick, built flat.
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 - Upper filling half removed; from north-west.
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 - Pit-roofing half removed.
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 - N. 4732, from north-west.
 - N. 4797, from north-west.
 - N. 4303, from south-east.
 - N. 4715, from north-west.
 - N. 4545, from south-east.
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 - N. 4912, from north-west. Tiny alabaster vase.

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 f. N. 5596, from north-west. Pottery.
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 b. N. 4371, from north-west. Also above the coffin a piece of the lid, shewing perforations.
 c. N. 4137, from south-east.
 d. N. 4744, from south-east.
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 b. In the middle of the photograph is shewn the stone superstructure of 5396 (III. dyn.). Above it on either side rise the mud and stone superstructures of 4997 and 4333 (VI.—IX. dyn.).
 c. The brick wall in the photograph is part of the superstructure of 5596 (III. dyn.). Above it, partly cleared away, is shewn the mud and stone superstructure of 5395.
 d. Here again the brick wall is part of the early superstructure (5397), while above is the mud and stone superstructure of 4997 (VI.—IX. dyn.).
 e. The brick wall in the foreground is the early superstructure (4136). Above it are parts of two VI.—IX. dyn. mud and stone superstructures (4332 and 4530).

Plate 39. f. On the right the brick superstructure of 5113 (III. dyn.): on the left, built above it, the mud and stone superstructure of 5111 (VI.—IX. dyn.).

Plate 40. VI.—IX. dyn. mud and stone superstructures.

- a. N. 5140, from west. Superstructure broken away by plunderers.
- b. N. 5140, from north-east, shewing original height of building (?).
- c. View from east shewing superstructures of 4706 (on left), 4907 (in middle), and 5140 (on right, in background). Between, and partly under, 4706 and 4907 there is an early grave, and in the foreground there are two more early graves.
- d. N. 4903, from south.
- e. N. 5114, from south-west, in middle of photograph. In the background is seen the entrance to the rock-cut tomb N. 4746.
- f. View from south-west shewing N. 5394 (in middle) and 4997 (on the right). The brick wall connecting these two superstructures was built later to protect a surface burial. The brick walls on the left belong to II.—III. dyn. superstructures.

Plate 41. Details of VI.—IX. dyn. superstructures.

- a. N. 4904. View from east, shewing remains of the mud and stone superstructure.
- b. N. 4904. Underneath this superstructure, and above the pit, there was a bronze spear-head with long wooden shaft.
- c. N. 4741. View from south-west, shewing pottery in the entrance passage.
- d. N. 4746. View from south-west, shewing façade of tomb and pottery in the doorway.
- e. N. 4748. South-west side of superstructure, with niche containing painted stela and pottery.
- f. North-east side of same superstructure.

Plate 42. VI.—IX. dyn. burials.

- a. N. 5197, from south-east. Remains of wooden coffin. Plundered.
- b. N. 4132, from south-east.
- c. N. 4941, from north-west. Plundered.
- d. N. 4138, from north-east, with pottery.
- e. N. 4138, from south-west, after removal of pottery.
- f. N. 4910, from south-west.

Plate 43. VI.—IX. dyn. burials.

- a. N. 5191, from north-west. Remains of wooden coffin. Plundered.
- b. N. 4579, from south-west.
- c. N. 5198, from south-east.
- d. N. 4948, from north-west.
- e. N. 4509, from south-west.
- f. N. 4302, from south-west.

Plate 44. VI.—IX. dyn. burials in underground chambers.

- a. N. 4746^e, from south-west.

- Plate 44. b. N. 4704, from south-west.
 c. N. 4335, from south-west.
 d. N. 4746^f, from south-west.
 e. N. 4130, from south-west.
 f. N. 4907, from south-west.

Plate 45. Stone vases and flints, II.—III. dyn.

- a. N. 3551, stone vases. Scale roughly 1:6
- b. Flints from various tombs, 4373 4532 4532 4139 4139
 all II.—III. dyn. except 1, which 5147 5147 5147 5147 4370
 is predynastic. Scale 1:2 surface surface surface surface 4507
- c. Stone vases from various tombs. Scale roughly 1:7
- | | | | | |
|------|---------|------|---------|------------------------|
| 5598 | | 4179 | | surface |
| 4717 | surface | 5114 | 4912 | 4374 surface 4747 4702 |
| 4900 | | 4573 | surface | surface 4375 4519 |
| 4900 | | 4573 | 4139 | surface 5113 4519 |

Plate 46. II.—III. dyn. stone vases. Scale roughly 1:7.

- a. N. 4532. All of alabaster.
- b. N. 5103. Nos. 5 and 6 are of limestone, 10 of diorite, and the rest are alabaster.
 No. 3 is the base of the table (2).
- c. N. 4771 and 4139. All of alabaster. The numbers below the vases signify their position in the tomb (see diagrams on page 35).
- d. N. 4506 and 4148. All of alabaster.
- e. N. 4376. All of alabaster.
- f. From various tombs.

5175		5397
	surface	5104
4371	surface	4517 surface.

Plate 47. Small objects from II.—III. dyn. graves.

- a. N. 5175: copper ewer.
- b. N. 4705: glaze beads. N. 4375 carnelian beads. N. 4900 shell bracelet. Scale 1:1.
- c. N. 5147: ivory bracelet and four flints, three of which were notched for use in a sickle. N. 3939, carnelian and shell beads, ivory bracelet, flint flake, scraps of malachite. Scale 1:2.
- d. N. 4942: leather sheath (see page 48). Scale 1:1.
- e. N. 4532: shells, two of which contain kohl, two flint flakes, several copper needles, scraps of malachite and colouring matter. Scale 1:2.
- f. N. 5399: limestone cylinder vase, limestone spouted dish, piece of an alabaster dish, shells containing kohl and colouring matter. Scale 1:2.

Plate 48. Small objects from II.—III. dyn. graves.

- a. Copper model tools from graves N. 4506, 4376, 4711 and 4532. Scale 1:2.

- Plate 48. b. N. 3939: gold rings, gold and silver beads. Scale 1:1.
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 - b. II.—III. dyn., from various graves. The number 4177 under the upper vase on the right hand side should be 4179. Scale roughly 1:5.
 - c. N. 4707 and 4732, II.—III. dyn. The numbers below the pots signify their position in the tomb. Scale roughly 1:6.
 - d. N. 5598, II.—III. dyn. Scale roughly 1:6.
 - e. II.—III. dyn., from various graves. Scale roughly 1:6.
- | | | | | | |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 5396 | 5396 | 5396 | 5397 | 5397 | 5397 |
| 5310 | 5310 | 4717 | 5115 | 5119 | |
- Plate 50. II.—III. dyn. pottery. Scale roughly 1:6.
- a. N. 4573 and 4734.
 - b. N. 4735 and 4130.
- Plate 51. II.—III. dyn. pottery. Scale roughly 1:6.
- a. N. 5103 and 4337.
 - b. N. 5399.
 - c. N. 5596.
- Plate 52. II.—III. dyn. pottery. Scale roughly 1:6.
- a. N. 4772, 4374 and 4940.
 - b. N. 4975 and 4336.
- Plate 53. II.—III. dyn. pottery. Scale roughly 1:6.
- a. N. 4974, 4992, 5597, 5105 and 4901.
 - b. N. 4377 and 4771.
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 - b. N. 4749.
 - c. N. 4137.
 - d. N. 5105.
 - e. N. 4570: large pot used as coffin.
 - f. N. 4714: " " " " "
 - g. N. 4735: " " " " "
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- Plate 56. b. Carnelian beads and glaze scaraboid, found on the surface, thrown out from a plundered grave.
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 N. 4746: carnelian and glaze beads and shells from the original VI.—IX. dyn. burial; two glaze scaraboids and bronze ring from an XVIII. dyn. intensive burial.
- c. N. 4748. Painted limestone stela.
- d. Bronze spear-heads from N. 4904, 4536 and 4746; copper model table from N. 4130.
- e. N. 4746: two alabaster kohl pots, pottery kohl pot, wooden chair-leg and piece of a stone offering table, from the original VI.—IX. dyn. burial; broken glaze vase and piece of a small glaze dish, from the XVIII. dyn. intrusive burial; iron arrow-head of still later date.
- f. N. 4746: pieces of two or three limestone stelae.
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- | | | | | | |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|------|---------|
| 4748 | 4507 | 4138 | 4717 | 4333 | surface |
| surface | surface | surface | surface | | surface |
| | | | | 4748 | |
- b. Pottery from N. 4746. Nos. 2, 16 and 29 belong to the XVIII. dyn. intrusive burial, the rest to the original VI.—IX. dyn. burial.
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Pebble burnishing of pottery	20, 21, 26, 27, 40, 41	Shells containing <i>kohl</i>	26, 48
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" without underground chambers	49	Silver beads	26, 48
Pit-linings, of brick	7, 14, 15, 16, 19—29	Stairway tombs	2, 9, 19
" of stone	7, 14, 15, 16, 22, 27, 28, 29	Stelae of limestone	51, 56
Plundering of tombs	2, 19—31, 36, 49, 52	Stone-roofed tombs	4, 8, 14, 15, 16, 20—31
Pottery	19—31, 35—41, 51, 56, 57	Stone vases	19, 21, 22, 24—26, 28—30, 35, 36, 41—46
Pottery, coffins	7, 8, 14, 15, 16, 27, 34, 41	" " broken at time of burial	36
" <i>kohl</i> pot	56	" " position of, in tomb	36
" position of, in grave	36	" " under lining walls	7
" ring-stands	51, 56, 57	Stucco, use of, on superstructures	13, 14, 15, 16, 27
Predynastic burial	2, 14, 17, 18	Substructures	6—9
		Superstructures	2, 9—13, 15, 16, 17, 19—31, 50, 51
'Reqaqnah' (quoted)	4, 31, 43, 44, 48	" of brick	10—13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19—31
Rings, of gold	26, 48	" of later date	50, 51
Rock-cut tombs	1, 2, 52	" of stone	10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 27, 28
Roofing of superstructure	11	Surface burials	49
'Royal Tombs I' (quoted)	37		
'Royal Tombs II' (quoted)	43, 44, 47	Underground chambers, with stairway	3
'Shaft and chamber' tombs	2	Wooden coffins	8, 14, 15, 16, 22, 23, 25, 28, 30, 31, 34
Shell beads	26, 48	Wood-roofed tombs	34



Early Dynastic Cemeteries II.



View of cemetery at beginning of work, from north-west.

Early Dynastic Cemeteries II.



View of cemetery after final clearing, from north-west.



a. Lower part of cemetery from south-east, after clearing.



b. Upper part of cemetery from south-east, after clearing.



View of cemetery from south-west, shewing VI dyn. superstructures.

Early Dynastic Cemeteries II.



View of cemetery from south-west, shewing III dyn. superstructures.

Early Dynastic Cemeteries II.



a. N. 3551. View from inside, shewing stairway.



b. N. 4598. Entrance passage, from north-west.



c. N. 4598. Shewing broken corbel, from south-east.



a. N. 4370. Stone slab in position, from north-west.



b. N. 4379. Stone slab in position, from north-west.



c. N. 4774. General view, from south-east.



d. N. 5301. Niche, from south-west.



e. N. 4734. Filling, from south-east.



f. General view of superstructures, from south-west.



a. N. 4506. Superstructure, from north-east.



b. N. 4506. West corner of superstructure, with offering niche.



c. N. 4506. Substructure with recess, from south-east.



d. N. 4506. Recess, nearer view.



e. N. 4974. Offering niche with pottery, from south.



f. N. 4974. Same, further cleared.



a. N. 4532. Broken alabasters in filling above burial.

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b. N. 4148. Broken alabasters on floor of grave with burial.



c. N. 4376. Broken alabasters on floor and under lining.

*



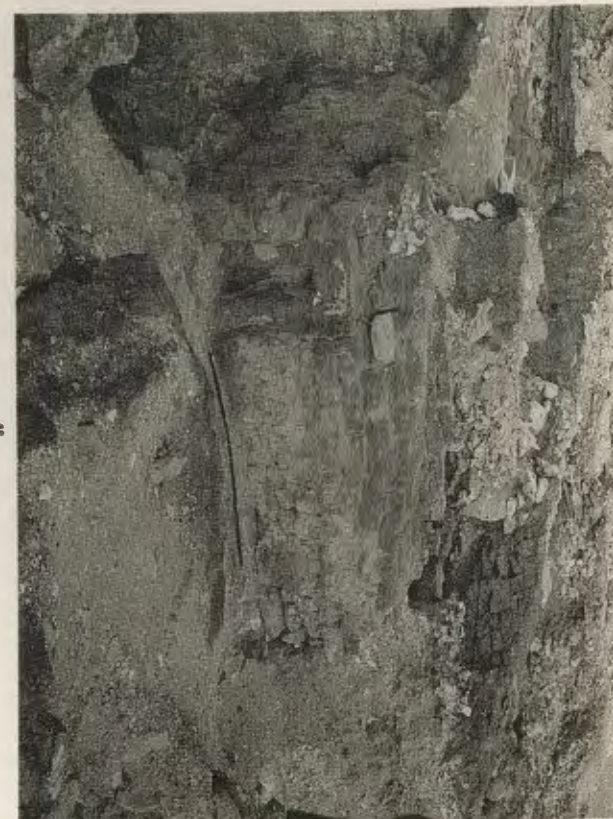
d. N. 4711. Copper model tools on floor of grave.



e. N. 3939. Gold rings on floor of grave.



f. N. 5175. Copper ewer under lining wall.



a. South-west face of superstructure.



c. Covering stones half removed, from south-east.



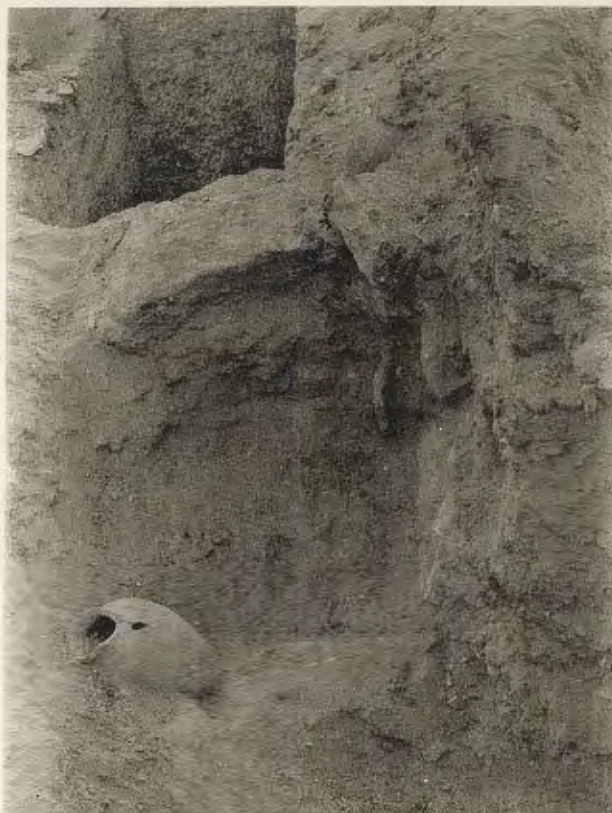
b. Covering stones intact, from south-east.



d. Large slab under covering stones.



e. Burial, from south-east.



e. N. 5310. Filling half removed, from south-east.



c. N. 4700. Further cleared, from south-east.



a. N. 4700. Untouched, from north-east.



f. N. 5310. Burial, from south-east.

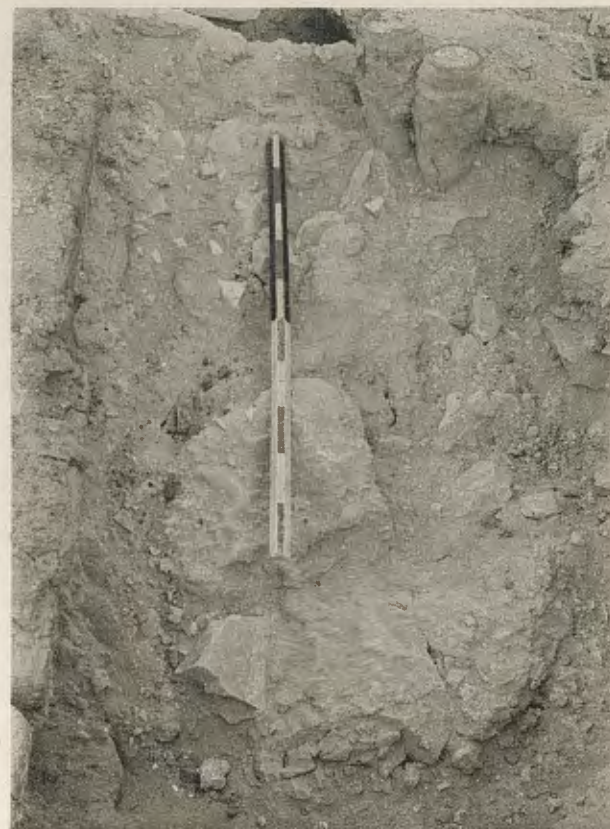


d. N. 4700. Burial, from south-east.



b. N. 4700. Part cleared, from south-east.

N. 4700 and 5310. Series shewing stages of clearing.



a. Untouched, from north-west.



b. Part cleared, from north-west.



c. Further cleared, from north-west.



d. Superstructure wall built on stone filling, from south-west.



e. Burial, from north-west.



f. Burial, from north-west: nearer view.

N. 4707. Series shewing stages of clearing.



a. Untouched, from south-west.



b. Upper filling part cleared, from south-west.



c. Upper filling all removed, from south-west.



d. Lower filling part cleared, from south-west.



e. Wall built on filling, pottery placed in filling.



f. Burial, from south-east.

N. 5397. Series shewing stages of clearing.



e. N. 4572. Filling half cleared, from north-west.



c. N. 4772. Burial, from north-west.



a. N. 4772. Filling intact, from north-west.



f. N. 4572. Burial, from north-west.

*



d. N. 4572. Filling intact, from north-east.



b. N. 4772. Filling half-cleared, from north-west.

N. 4772 and 4572. Series shewing stages of clearing.



a. N. 4771. Filling intact.



b. N. 4771. Filling half-cleared, from south-west.



c. N. 4771. Burial, from south-west.



d. N. 4573. Filling intact, from north-west.



e. N. 4573. Filling half-cleared, from north-west.



f. N. 4573. Burial, from north-west.

N. 4771 and 4573. Series shewing stages of clearing.



e. 4902. Part cleared, from north-west.



c. 4773. Burial, from south-east.



a. 4773. Untouched, from south-east.



f. 4902. Burial, from north-west.



d. 4902. Untouched, from south-west.



b. 4773. Part cleared, from south-east.

N. 4773 and 4902. Series shewing stages of clearing.



e. N. 4946. Coffin with lid, from north-west.



c. N. 4712. Shewing pottery, from north-east.



a. N. 4712. Covering intact, from south-east.



f. N. 4946. Burial, from north-west.



d. N. 4712. Burial from north-west.



b. N. 4712. Half-cleared, from south-east.

N. 4712 and 4946. Series shewing stages of clearing.



e. N. 4749. Stones resting on coffin.



c. N. 5302. One slab removed.



a. N. 5302. West face of superstructure.



f. N. 4749. Burial, from south-east.



d. N. 5302. Burial.



b. N. 5302. Stone slabs over coffin, from north-west.

N. 5302 and 4749. Series shewing stages of clearing.



e. 4743. Covering half removed, from south-east.



c. 5306. Burial, from north-west.



a. 5306. Covering intact, from north-east.



f. 4743. Burial, from north-west.



d. 4743. Covering intact, from south-east.



b. 5306. Covering half removed, from north-west.

N. 5306 and 4743. Series shewing stages of clearing.



e. N. 4718. Coffin with lid, from south-east.



c. N. 5199. Further cleared, from east.



a. N. 5199. Covering intact, from east.



f. N. 4718. Lid removed, from south-east.



d. N. 5199. Burial, from south-east.



b. N. 5199. Part cleared, from east.

N. 5199 and 4718. Series shewing stages of clearing.

Early Dynastic Cemeteries II.



a. View of superstructure, from north.



b. Large stone slab over pit, from south.



c. Stone slab removed, from east.



d. Pottery underneath stone filling, from south-east.



e. Burial, from east.



a. Superstructure and enclosure wall, from east.



b. Upper filling half removed, from north-west.



c. Upper filling all removed, from north-west.



d. Lower filling half removed, from north-west.



e. Burial, from north-west.



f. Lining walls removed, shewing broken alabasters.

N. 5103. Series shewing stages of clearing.

Early Dynastic Cemeteries II.



a. Covering intact, from west.



b. Mud covering half removed, from north-east.



c. Mud covering all removed, from north-east.



d. Upper filling half removed, from north-east.



e. Upper filling all removed, from south-east.



f. Place of burial, broken through to another grave.

N. 4547. Series shewing stages of clearing.



a. General view, 4900 in foreground, from north-west.



b. Shewing filling and superstructure, from north-west.



d. Upper filling all removed, from north-west.



c. Upper filling half removed, from north-west.



e. Burial, from north-west.

N. 4900. Series shewing stages of clearing.



e. N. 4572. South-west face and niches.



c. N. 4702. Large slab under filling, from south-east.



a. N. 4702. Filling intact, from north-west.



f. N. 4572. Southern niche and enclosure wall.



d. N. 4702. Burial; from north-west.



b. N. 4702. Filling half removed, from south-east.

N. 4572. Details of superstructure.

N. 4702. Series shewing stages of clearing.

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*



e. N. 4571, from north-west.



c. N. 4901. Remains of wooden coffin.



a. N. 4901. Untouched, from south-west.



f. N. 4798, from north-west.



d. N. 4901. Burial, from north-west.



b. N. 4901. Half cleared, from north-west.

N. 4571 and 4798. Burials.

N. 4901. Series shewing stages of clearing.



a. Untouched, from west.

*



c. Upper filling all removed, from north-west.



e. Lower filling all removed, from north-west.



b. Upper filling part cleared, from north-west.



d. Lower filling part cleared, from north-west.



f. Burial, from north-west.

N. 5104. Series shewing stages of clearing.



a. N. 4944. View of superstructure, from south-west.



b. N. 4944. Shewing plunderers' hole, from north-west.



c. N. 4944. Section, from north-west.



d. N. 4944. Burial, from north-west.



e. N. 4713. Coffin with lid, from south-east.



f. N. 4713. Lid removed.

N. 4944 and 4713. Series shewing stages of clearing.



a. Untouched, from south-west.



b. Upper filling part cleared, from north-west.



c. Lower roofing intact, from north-west.



d. Lower roofing part cleared, from north-west.



e. Shewing double roofing, from north-west.



f. Burial, from north-west.

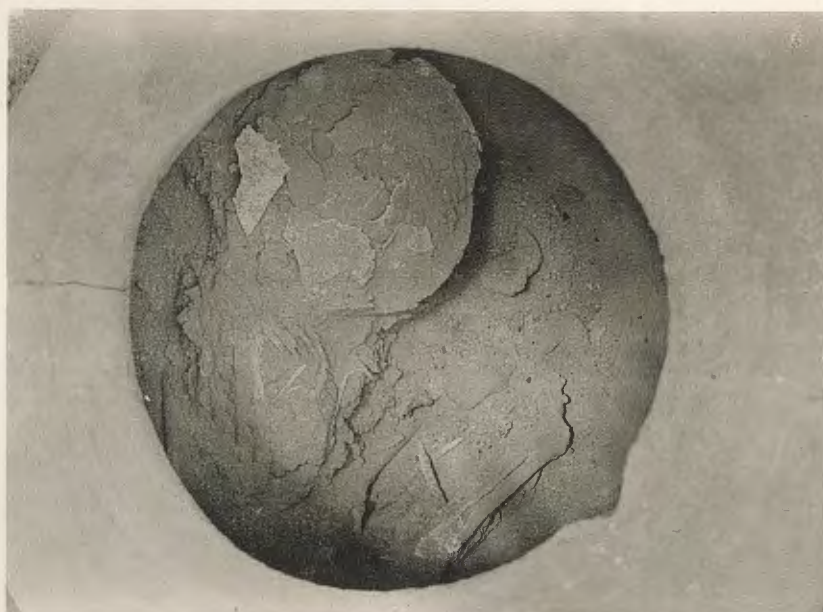
N. 5147. Series shewing stages of clearing.



a. 4570. Shewing pot as found, from south-east.



b. 4570. View from above.



c. 4570. Shewing burial within.



d. 4714. Shewing pot as found, from south-east.



e. 4714. Shewing burial within.



e. N. 4519, from south-east



c. N. 4943, from north-west.



a. N. 4373 Predynastic, from north-west.



f. N. 4747, from north-west.



d. N. 4717, from north-west.



b. N. 4701, from north-west.

Burials from various tombs.



e. N. 4715, from north-west.



c. N. 4797, from north-west.



a. N. 4942, from north-west.



f. N. 4548, from south-east.



d. N. 4303, from south-east.



b. N. 4732, from north-west.

Burials from various tombs.



e. N. 4576, from north-west.



c. N. 4179, from south-east.



a. N. 4745, from north-west.



f. N. 4906, from south-west.



d. N. 5598, from north.



b. N. 4912, from north-west.

Burials from various tombs.



a. N. 4709, from north-west.



b. N. 5340, from north-west.



c. N. 5113, from south-east.



d. N. 5399, from north-west.



e. N. 4336, from north-west.



f. N. 5596, from north-west.

Burials from various tombs.



e. N. 4175, from north-west.



c. N. 4137, from south-east.



a. N. 4518, from north-west.



f. N. 4175, nearer view.



d. N. 4744, from south-east.



b. N. 4371, from north-west.

Burials in pottery coffins.



a. N. 4375, from north-west.



c. N. 4793, from north-west.

*



e. N. 4575, from north.



b. N. 4374, from north-west.



d. N. 4378, from north-west.



f. N. 4792, from south-east.

Disturbed burials from various tombs.



a. N. 4139 under 4530, from south-east.



b. N. 5396 under 4997 and 4333, from north-east.



c. N. 5596 under 5395, from north-east.



d. N. 5397 under 4997, from south-west.



e. N. 4136 under 4332 and 4530, from south-west.



f. N. 5113 under 5111, from north.



a. N. 5140, from west.



b. N. 5140, from north-east.



c. N. 4706, 4907 and 5140, from east.



d. N. 4903, from south.



e. N. 5114, from south-west.



f. N. 5394 and 4997, from south-west.



a. N. 4904. Remains of superstructure, from east.



b. N. 4904. Spear under superstructure, from east.



c. N. 4741. Pottery in entrance passage, from south-west.



d. N. 4746. South-west face: pottery in doorway.



e. N. 4748. South-west side, with stela and pottery.



f. N. 4748. North-east side.

N. 4904, 4741, 4746 and 4748. Details.



a. N. 5197, from south-east.



b. N. 4132, from south-east.



c. N. 4941, from north-west.



d. N. 4138. With pottery, from north-east.



e. N. 4138. Pottery removed, from south-west.



f. N. 4910, from south-west.



a. N. 5191, from north-west.



c. N. 5198, from south-east.



e. N. 4509, from south-west.



b. N. 4579, from south-west.



d. N. 4948, from north-west.



f. N. 4302, from south-west.



a. N. 4746 e, from south-west.



c. N. 4335, from south-west.



e. N. 4130, from south-west.



b. N. 4704, from south-west.



d. N. 4746 f, from south-west.

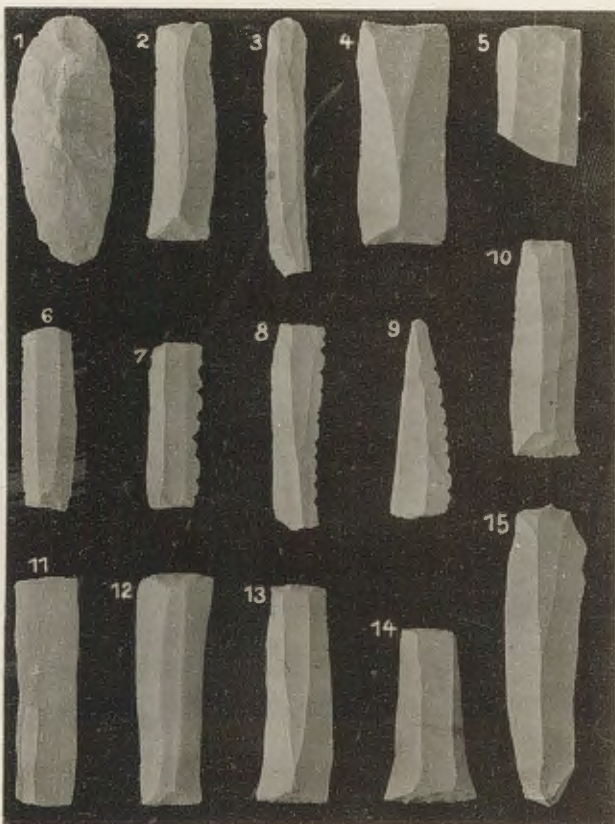


f. N. 4907, from south-west.

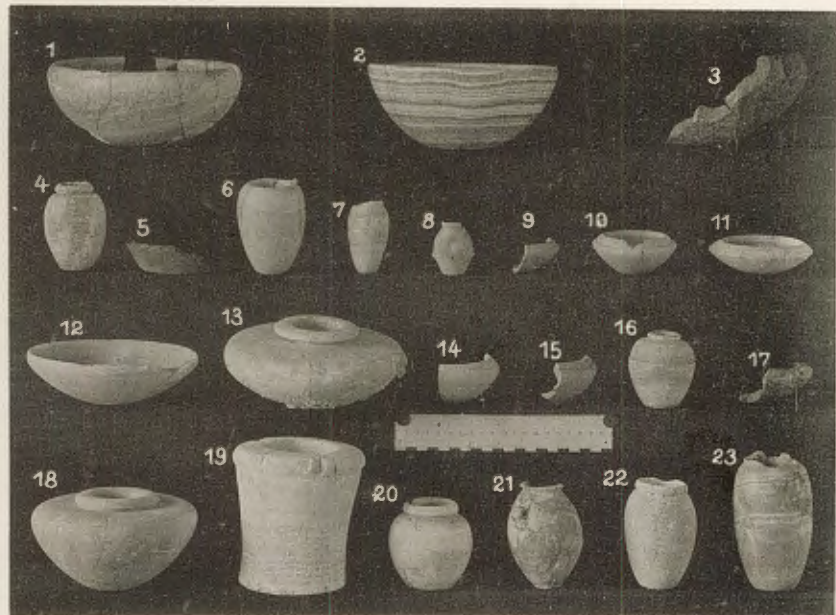
Early Dynastic Cemeteries II.



a. N. 3551. Stone vases.



b. Flints from various tombs. 1 : 2.

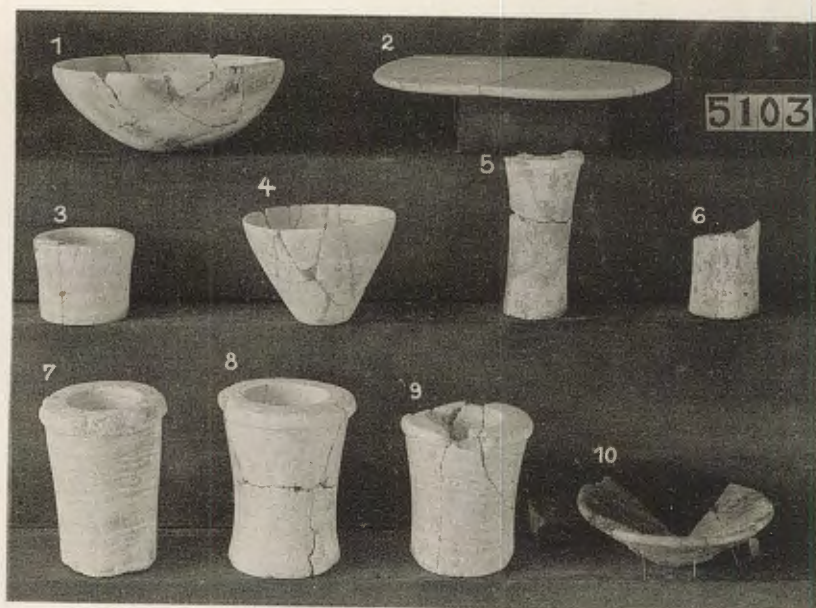


c. Stone vases from various tombs.

II—III dynasty stone vases and flints.



a. N. 4532.



b. N. 5103.



c. N. 4771 and 4139.



d. N. 4506 and 4148.



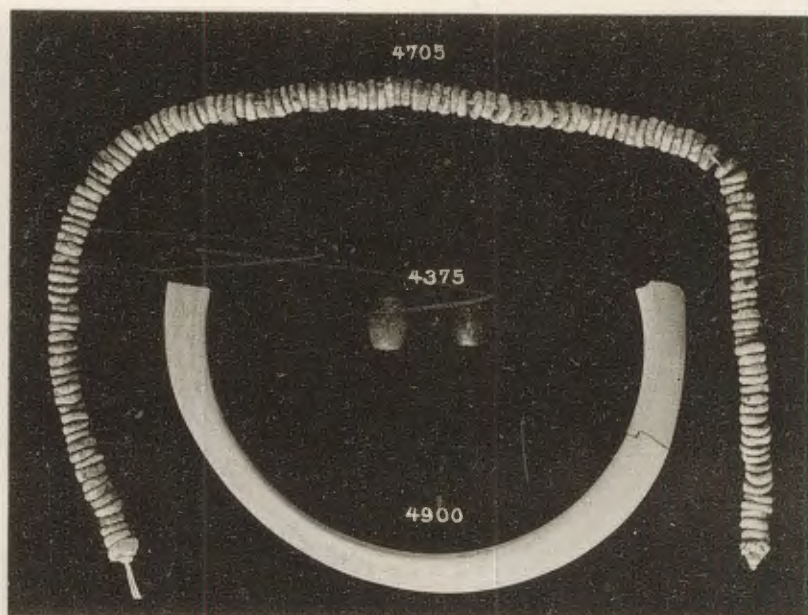
e. N. 4376.



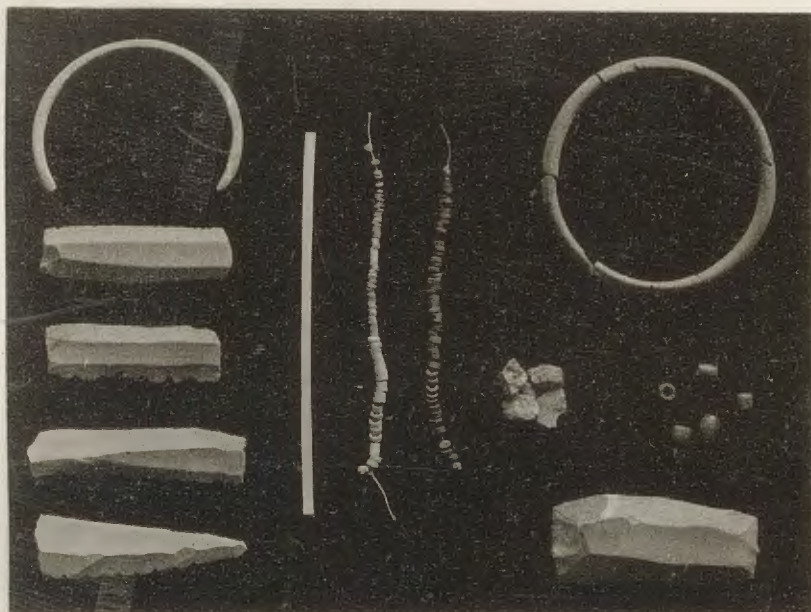
f. From various graves.



a. N. 5175. Copper ewer.



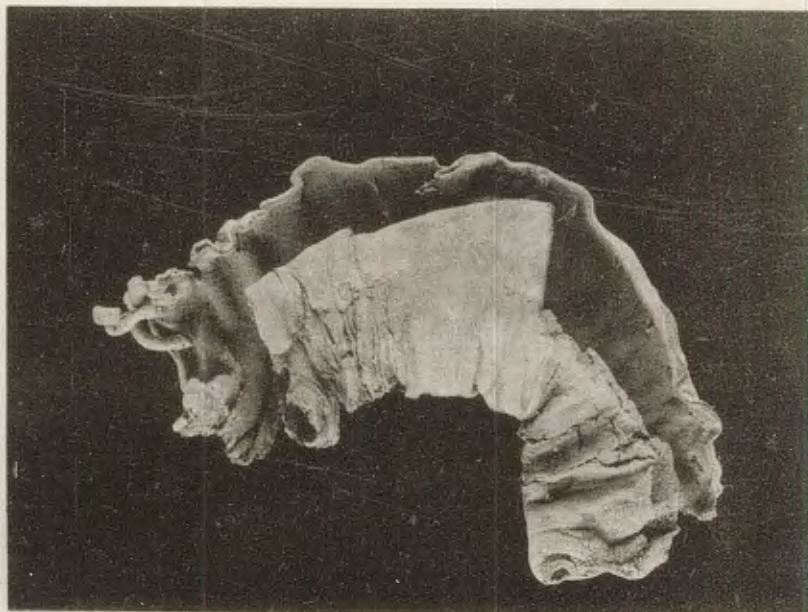
b. N. 4705, glaze beads: 4375, carnelian beads: 4900, ivory bracelet. 1 : 1.



c. N. 5147.

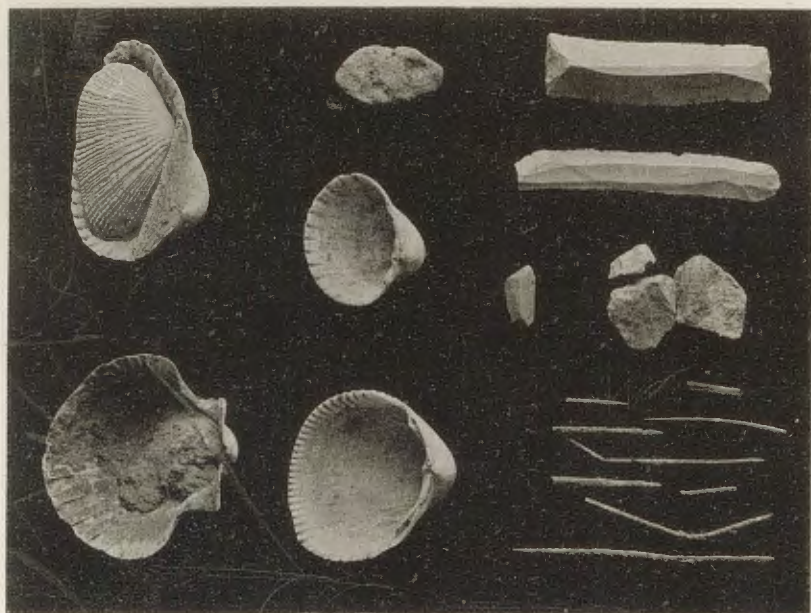
N. 3939.

1 : 2.



d. N. 4942. Leather sheath.

1 : 1.



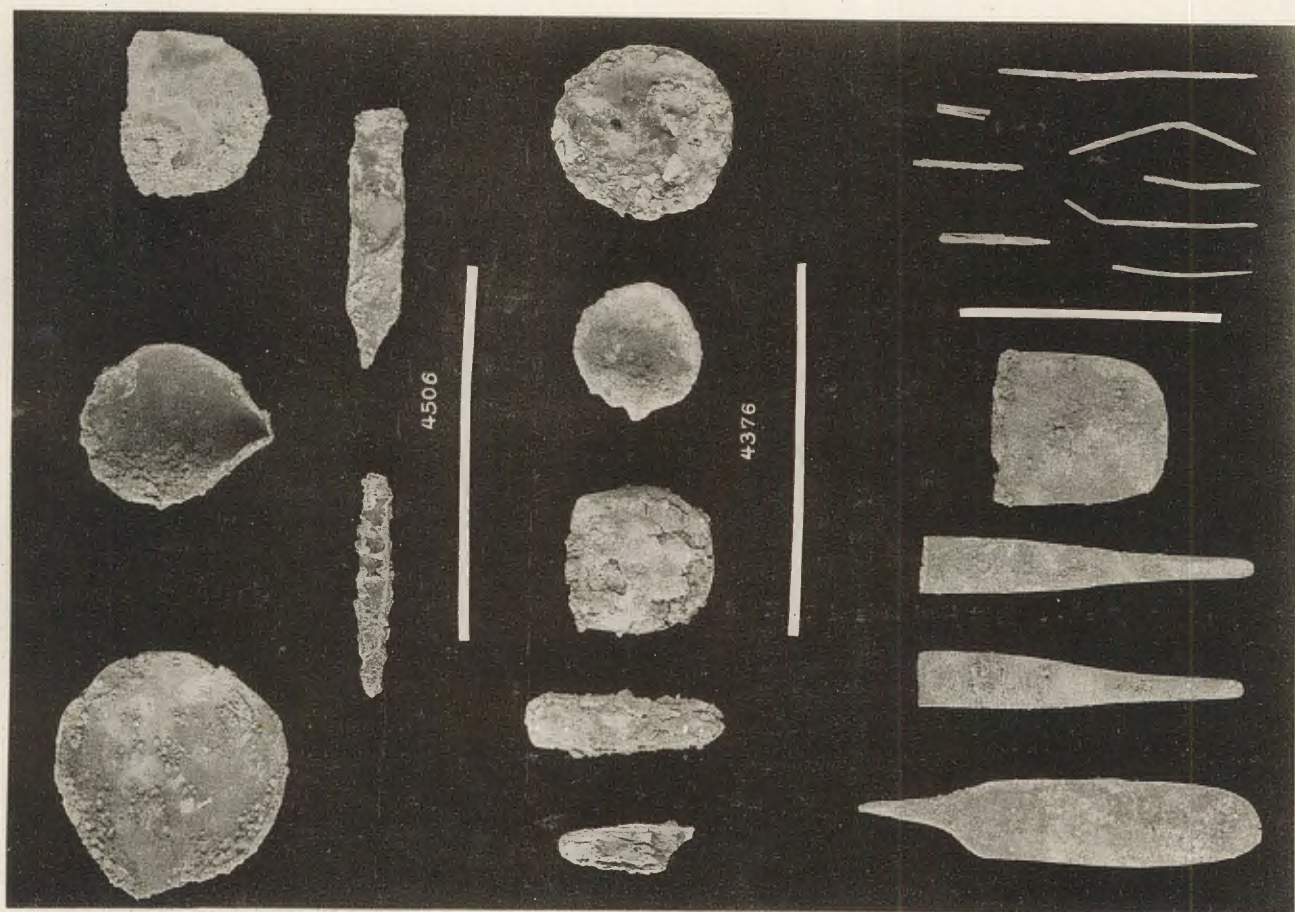
e. N. 4532. Shells containing Kohl, etc.

1 : 2.



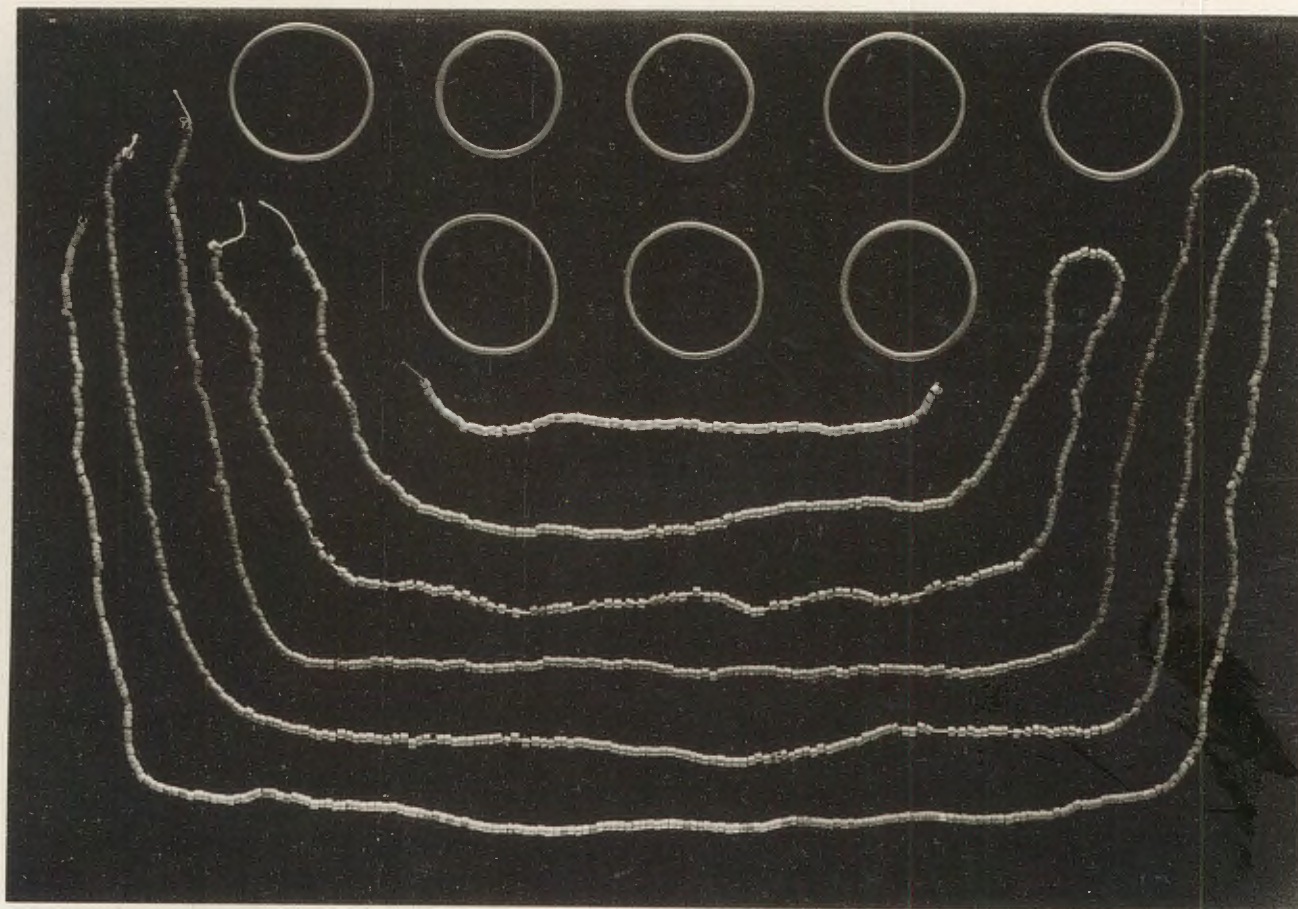
f. N. 5399. Shells containing Kohl, etc.

1 : 2.



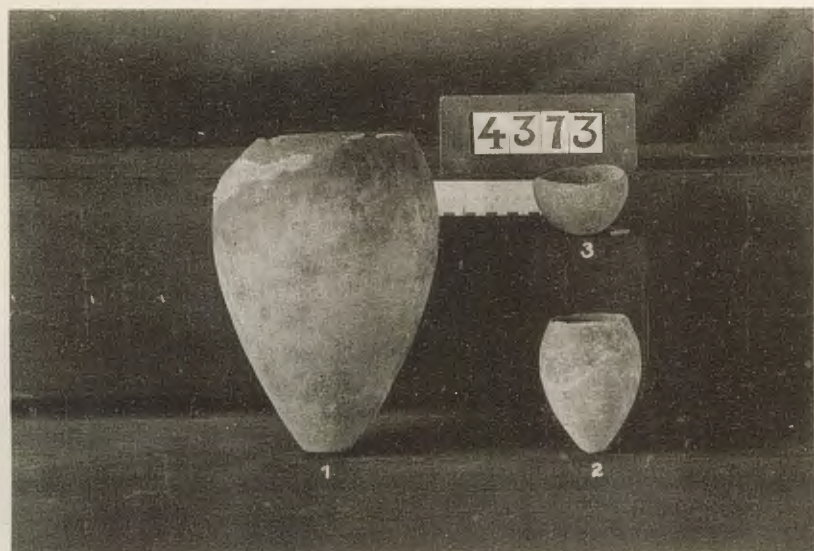
a. Copper model tools from various tombs.

I : 2.



b. N. 3939. Gold rings: gold and silver beads.

I : 1.



a. N. 4373. Predynastic.



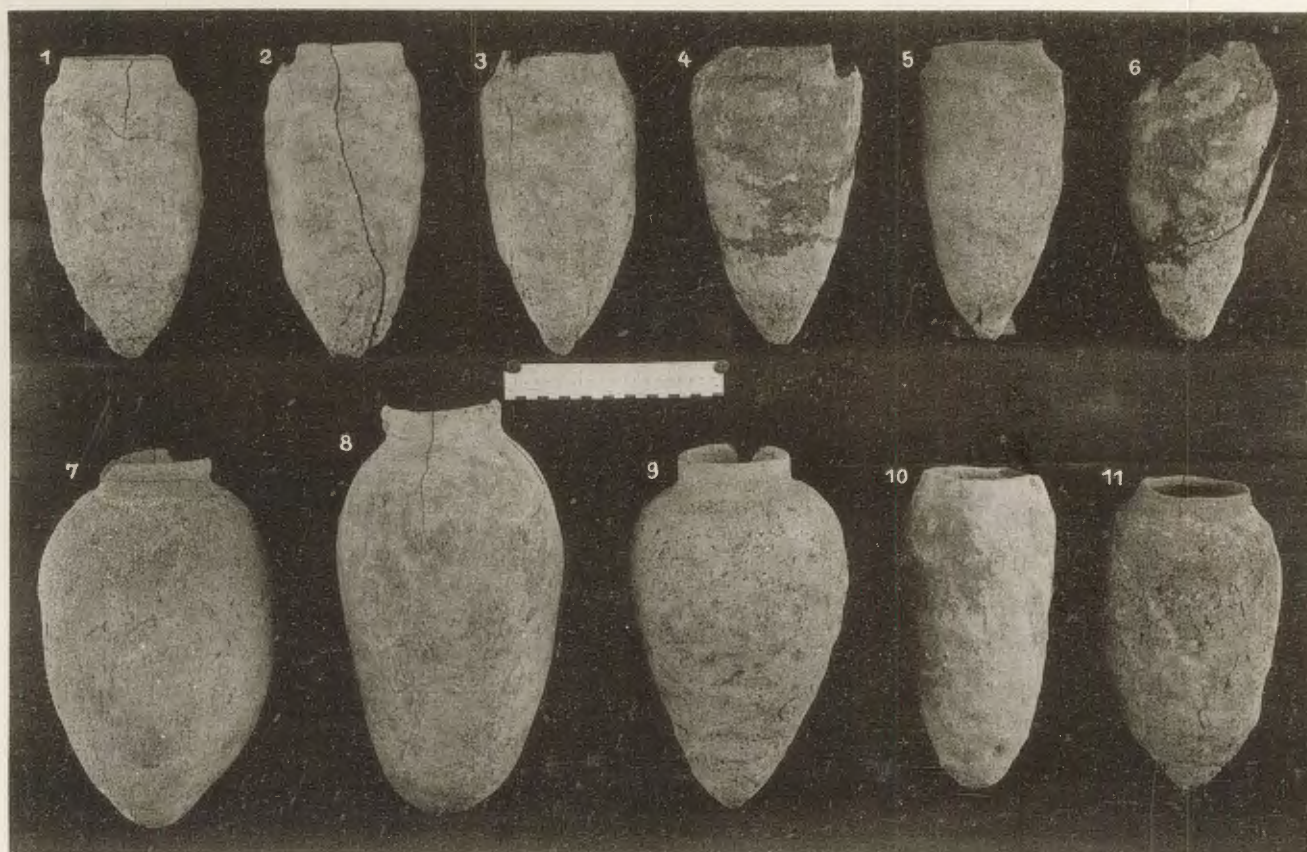
b. From various graves. II-III dyn.



c. N. 4707 and 4732. II-III dyn.

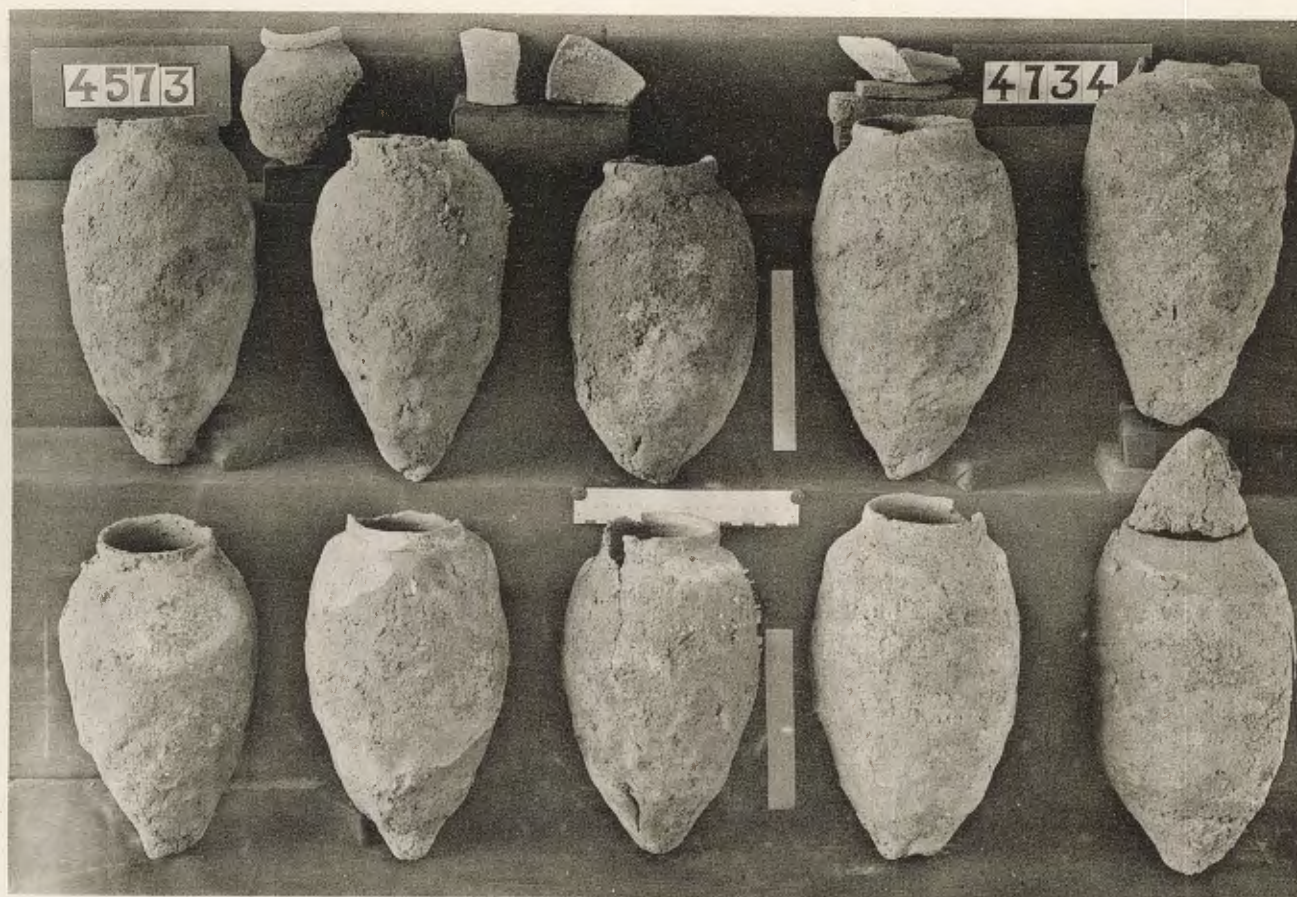


d. N. 5598. II-III dyn.

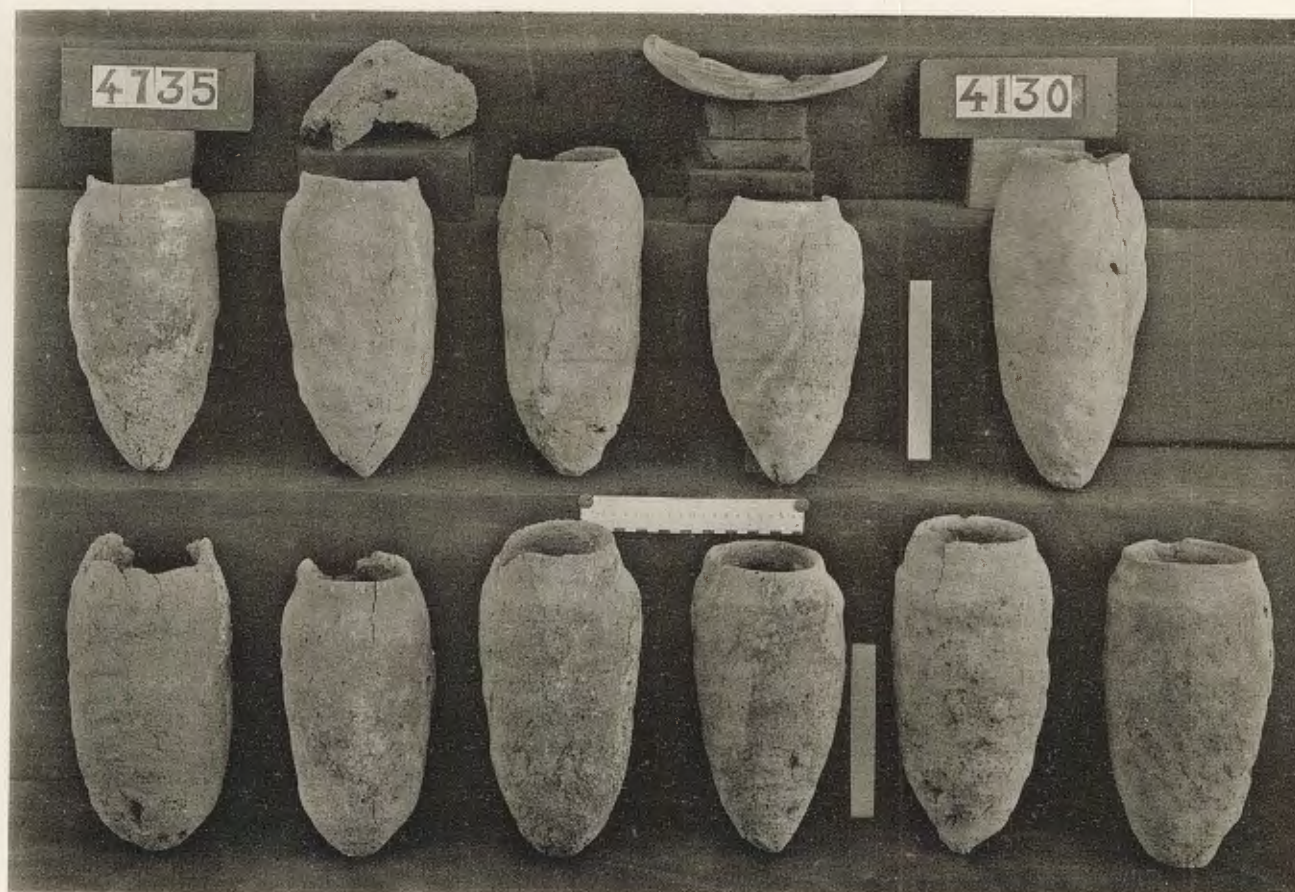


e. From various graves.

Early Dynastic Cemeteries II.



a. N. 4573 and 4734.



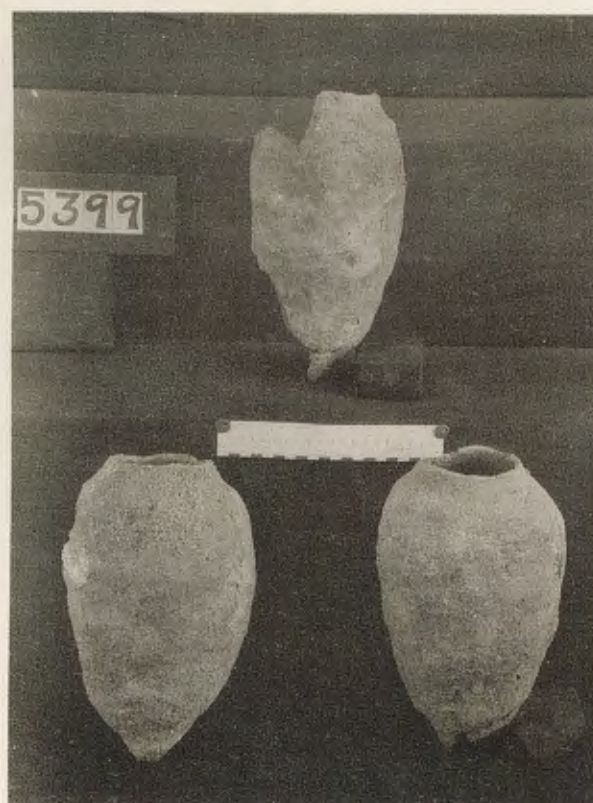
b. N. 4735 and 4130.

II—III dynasty pottery.

Early Dynastic Cemeteries II.



a. N. 5103 and 4337.



b. N. 5399 and 5596.

II—III dynasty pottery.

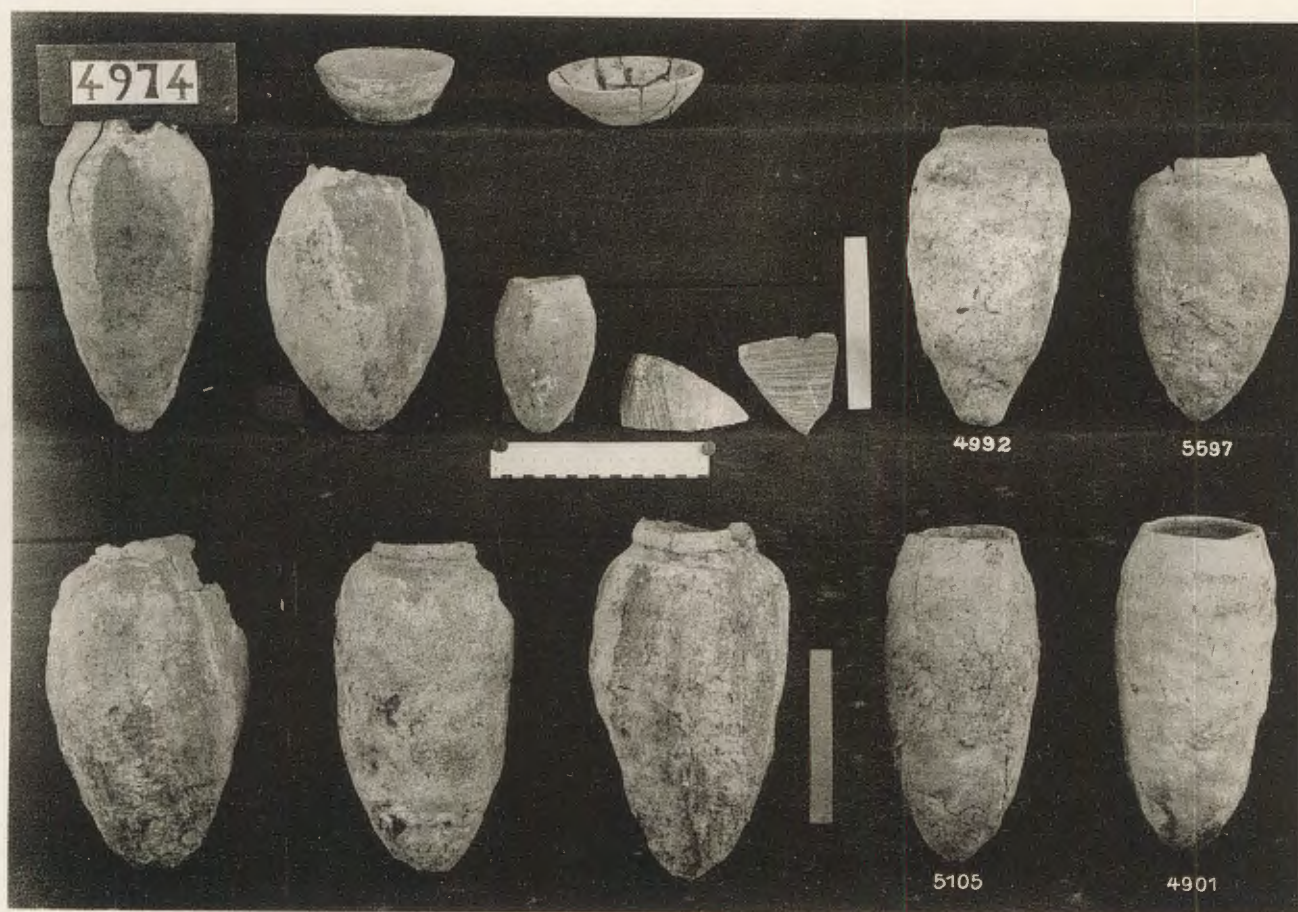


a. N. 4772, 4374 and 4940.

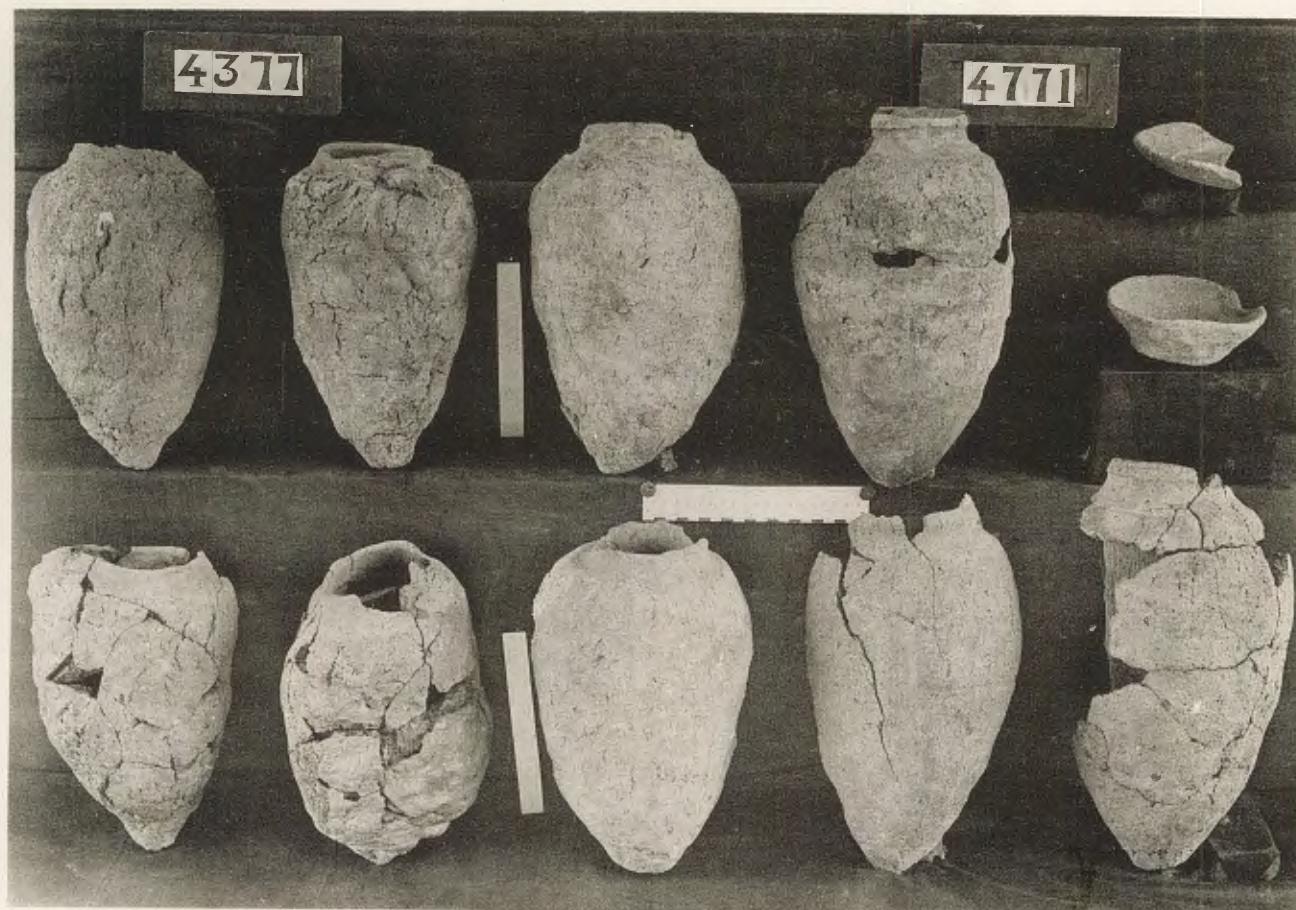


b. N. 4975 and 4336.

Early Dynastic Cemeteries II.



a. N. 4974, 4992, 5597, 5105 and 4901.



b. N. 4377 and 4771.

II—III dynasty pottery.



a Pottery from various tombs.



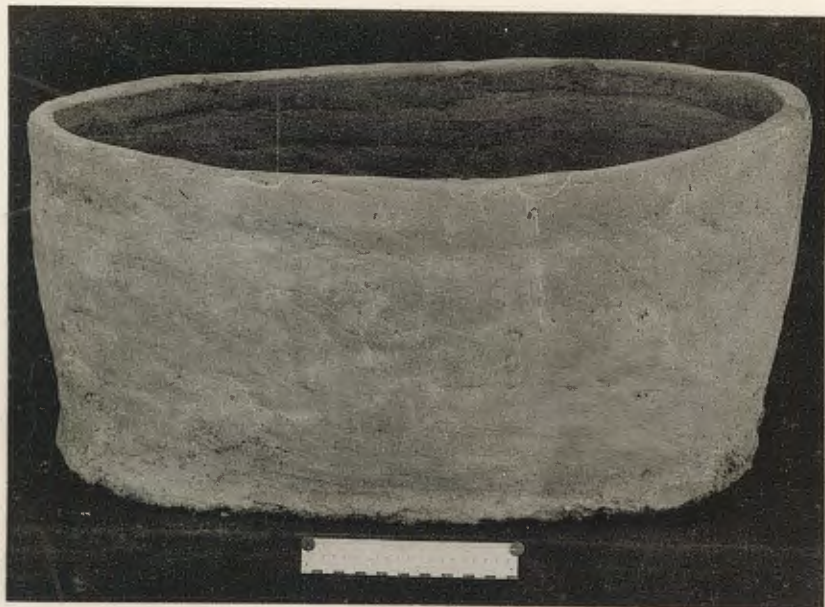
b. N. 4371. Coffin with perforated lid and bottom.



c. N. 4718. Coffin with lid.



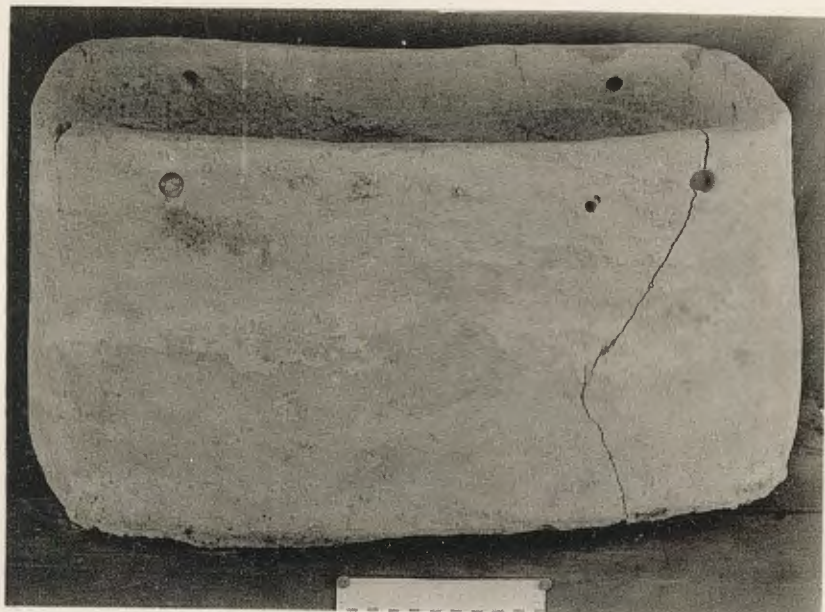
d. N. 4718. Coffin with lid.



a. N. 5302.



b. N. 4749.



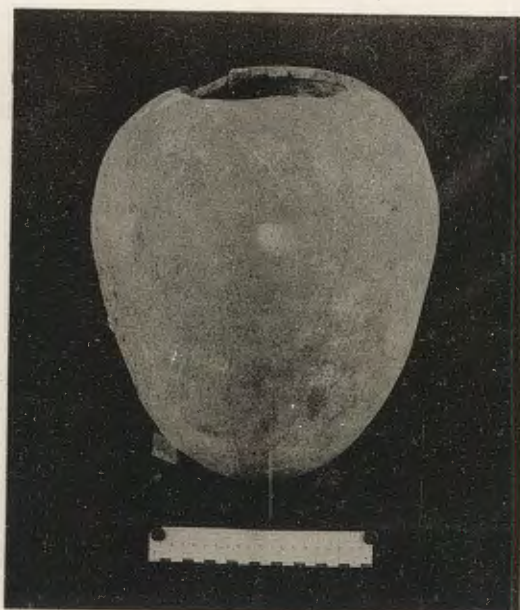
c. N. 4137.



d. N. 5105.



e. N. 4570.



f. N. 4714.



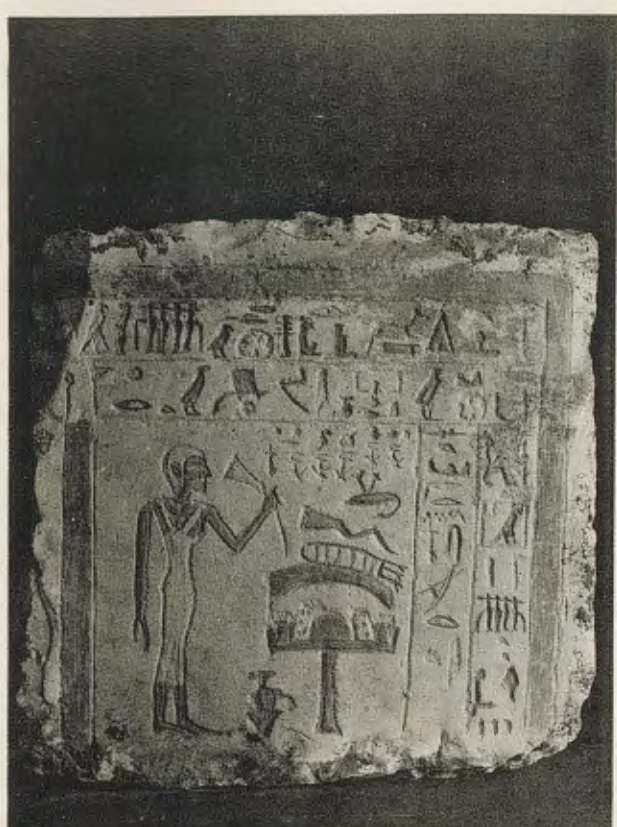
g. N. 4735.



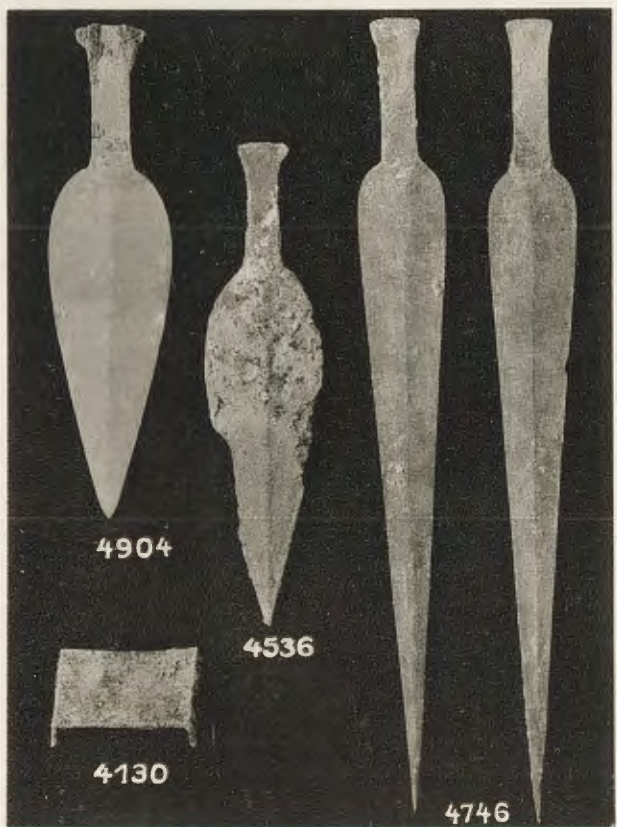
a. N. 4746?. Stone cylinder and cast. 1 : 1.



b. Beads, amulets etc. 1 : 1.



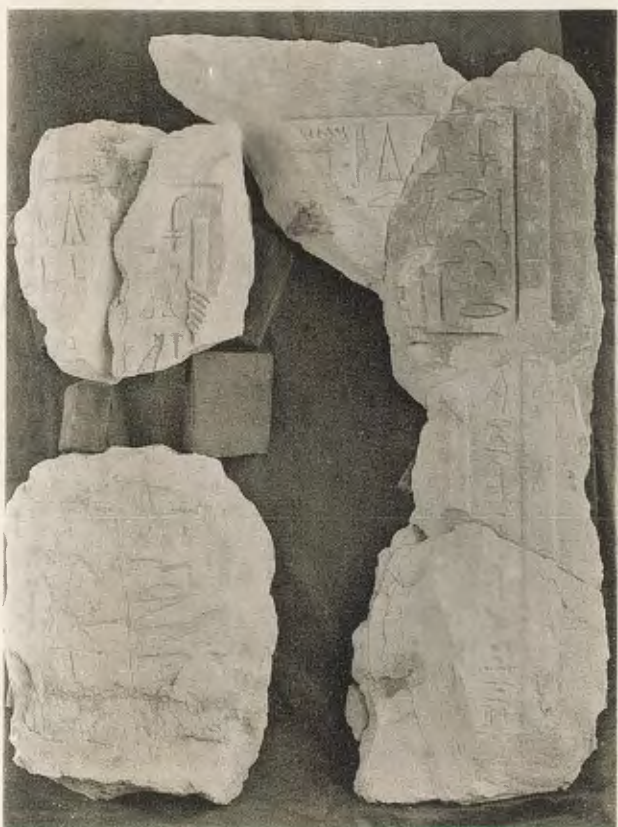
c. N. 4748. Limestone. 1 : 5.



d. Bronzes. 1 : 4.
Stelæ and other objects from later graves.



e. N. 4746.



f. N. 4746. Limestone.

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Early Dynastic Cemeteries II.

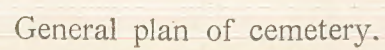


a. VI-IX dynasty pottery from various graves.

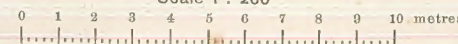


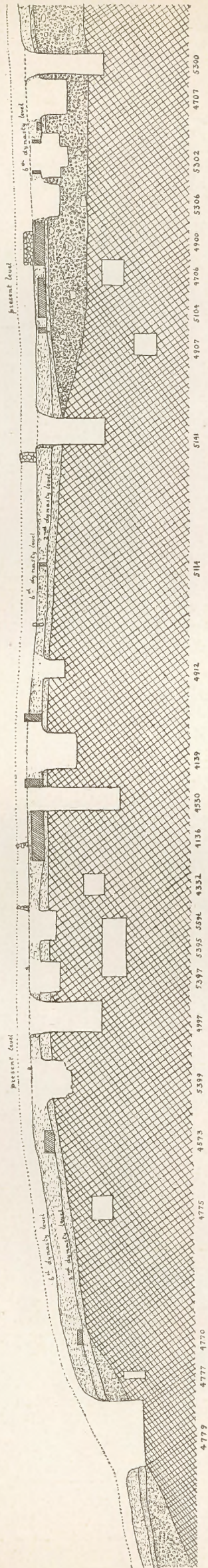
b. N. 4746. Mixture of VI-IX and XVIII dynasty pottery.

Pl. 58



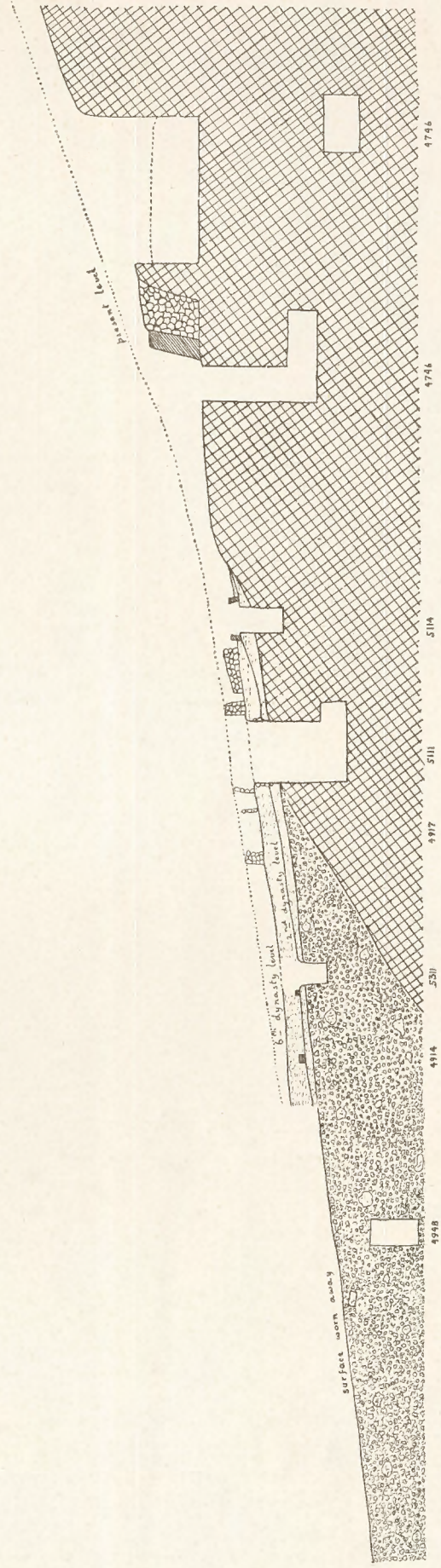
Scale 1 : 200



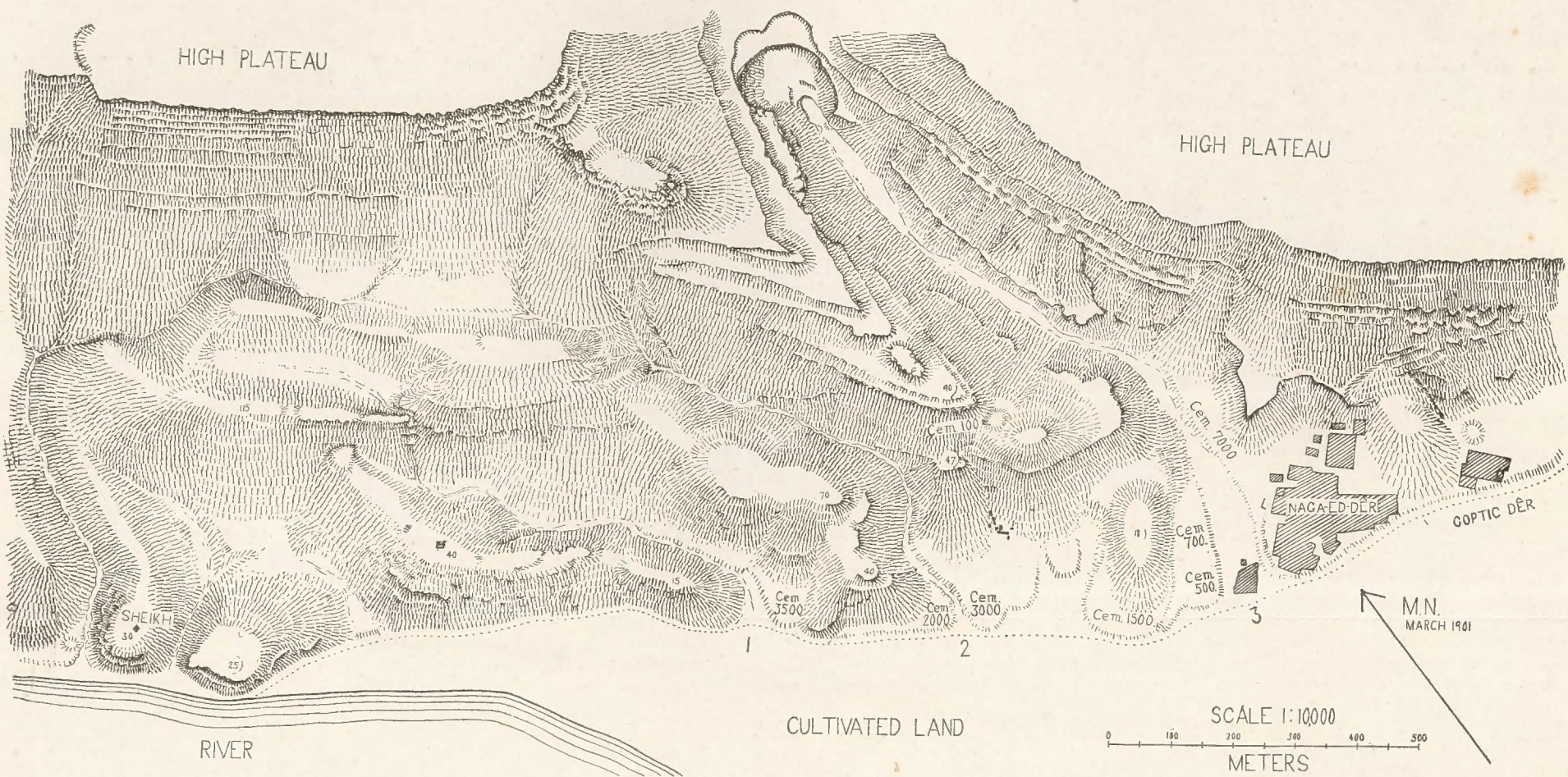


Section A B

- = brick construction
- = limestone rock
- = sand and debris
- = gravel deposit



Section D C



General plan of the Naga-ed-Dêr site.

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Cemeteries
of
Naga-ed-Dêr
II

A. C. Mace

Cb X

J. C. Hinrichs, Leipzig